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Sub-Saharan Africa Report

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21 MAY 1987

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INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS

WEST AFRICAN ISLAMIC MISSIONARIES ATTEND CONFERENCE IN TRIPOLI

Tripoli AL-DA'WAH AL-ISLAMIYAH in Arabic 7 Jan 87 pp 8-9

[Article by al-Mahdi al-Jali: "Meeting of West African Missionaries of the World Islamic Call Society Begins Today in Tripoli"]

[Text] Implementing the recommendations of the First Conference of Islamic Missionaries, which was held in Tripoli in 1979 and affirmed the need for the Islamic Call Society's missionaries to meet and exchange opinion and advice about the best ways of spreading the call to Islam, and implementing the program laid out by the Islamic Call Office and Islamic Centers in accordance with the society's overall annual plan, Africa Hall at the Bab al-Bahr Hotel today hosts the third meeting of West African missionaries, under the slogan, "Toward Better Ways of Calling to Islam."

Lectures: The lectures scheduled to be given at this meeting include the following subjects:

1. Foundations of Islamic missionary activity in light of the Noble Qur'an;
2. Holy War (Jihad) for the sake of God;
3. [Islamic] Consultative Council (Shura);
4. The mosque and its role in linking Muslims with the issues that affect their destiny;
5. September 1st: an Islamic Revolution;
6. Woman's role in implanting the call to Islam;
7. Popular Islamic conferences as a means to achieve Islamic consultation (shura);
8. Muslim youth and the rebuilding of Islamic civilization;
9. The Arabic language: the Muslims' way of affirming their Islamic authenticity;
10. Islam without [separate] legal schools (madhahib);

11. Missionary methods in the context of the Third Conference on Islamic Call Activity.

AL-DA'WAH AL-ISLAMIYAH has learned that more than 144 of the West African missionaries of the World Islamic Call Society will attend this great Islamic meeting which the Islamic Call Office and Islamic Centers sponsors every year. The meeting is part of a yearly program aimed at following up the activities of missionaries and stimulating them with ideas, so that they can carry forward the Islamic call in modern, scientific ways, confronting any Christianization campaigns to which the region may be subjected or destructive movements that aim at harming the Islamic religion that has begun to spread among young people, intellectuals, scientists, and even among priests and monks who were spreading Christianity, but whom God guided to Islam after they realized the spuriousness and falsity of their former paths and practices.

The Islamic Call Office is preparing to hold many other regional and continental meetings this year.

Representatives of the World Islamic Call Society have played an outstanding role in following the activities and work of missionaries there, and thus in communicating to these missionaries the invitation to this meeting.

The first meeting of West African missionaries of the World Islamic Call Society was held in Lome, the capital of Togo, for a full week beginning on 17 January 1982. In addition to the secretary of the World Islamic Call Society and the secretary general of the World Council for Islamic Call Activity, a large number of people interested in Islamic studies in the Republic of Togo attended, foremost among them the president of the Supreme Islamic Council and, from the government side, the deputy foreign minister.

At this meeting, the missionaries listened to many lectures. Among the papers given were: "Islam and the Dignity of Man," "The Mission of the Mosque Toward Society," "Islam and Labor," and "The Family in Islam." There was another lecture entitled, "Beliefs That Are No Part of Islam."

Professors specializing in Islamic studies and doctors interested in the problems of Islamic missionary work and the methods capable of solving these problems participated in these discussions.

A striking fact about this conference was the participation in the lecture program by many regional missionaries who have a special sense of the problems of the Islamic call in West Africa. They voiced some solutions and suggestions for solving these problems.

There was debate and discussion of many of the issues brought up during the meeting, and this increased the importance and general benefit of the meeting.

Following the adjournment of the meeting, which lasted over a full week, a number of recommendations were issued:

1. Emphasis should be placed on the importance of learning and teaching the Arabic language, it being the sole means of reading, studying, and

understanding the Book of God, Prophetic tradition, and Islamic law.

2. Emphasis should be placed on holding more such meetings which contribute to solving the problems of missionaries and missions, so that the Islamic call can be spread "with wisdom and good admonition" (Qur'an 16:125).

3. Work should be done to combat all innovations and bad customs widespread among Muslims in Africa.

4. Missionaries should be urged to make greater efforts to spread the message of Islam by all ways and means, so as to bring people out of darkness into light.

5. Attention should be given to mosques, so that they can properly perform their mission as a meeting place where Muslims can study their problems and issues through sermons and the study of preaching and guidance.

6. There is a need to unify Islamic curricula in West Africa, print school and reference books, and exchange experience and information.

7. The role of women in society should be emphasized, so that they may occupy their natural role in the family and perform their role in spreading Islam.

8. The meeting advises a return to an Islam free of sectarianism, fanaticism, and racism and working to spread Islam as it was revealed by God to His Messenger, Muhammad--may God bless him and save him.

Second Meeting of West African Missionaries

The second meeting of West African missionaries was held from 14 to 20 Sha'ban 1396 (after the death of the Messenger, may the blessings and peace of God be upon him), corresponding to 3-9 June 1985, in Cotonou, the capital of the People's Republic of Benin.

Among the officials of Benin who attended the conference were the foreign and interior ministers, the president of the Supreme Islamic Council, and the president of the university. There were also a large number of Islamic figures and people interested in Islamic thought, as well as about 150 of the Islamic Missionary Society's missionaries in that region, which includes Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Sierra Leone, Senegal, Togo, Ghana, Nigeria, Cameroon, Mali, Burkina Faso, People's Republic of the Congo, Ivory Coast, and the Central African Republic. The meeting, which lasted for a week, was devoted to studying ways of advancing the call to Islam and to a review of the recommendations made by the first meeting.

Those who attended listened to papers and lectures contributed by specialized professors invited to participate in the conference with their valuable papers and lectures. Among the lectures given at the conference were: "The Noble Qur'an as a Law for Society," "The Mission of the Mosque in Islam," "Usury," "The Pilgrimage as God Wanted It," "Islam as God Wanted It," "The Islamic Law of Marriage Between a Muslim Man and a Non-Muslim Woman or Marriage Between a Muslim Woman and a Non-Muslim Man," "Customs that Are No Part of Islam,"

"Baha'i and Its Danger to Islam," "Islam as Creed and Law," "The Qadiyanayah and Its Creed."

After the lectures, discussion circles were held to enrich the subjects and clarify many of the questions raised in the minds of those who had followed these lectures and papers. This was done in the context of the principle of Islamic consultation (shura) which the World Islamic Call Society always desires to emphasize. The lecturers replied to all questions, all of which were aimed at one goal: discussion of the problems of Islamic missionaries in the different African countries.

After a week filled with constructive debate and useful discussion, the meeting reached the following recommendations:

1. Application of the Islamic principle of consultation (shura) should be emphasized since it is an expression of the dignity of man.
2. The mosque being the free pulpit from which the problems of Islam, Muslims, and society in general are treated, the meeting recommends attention to mosques, so that they can assume their responsibilities in carrying forward the mission they had in the early period of Islam and so that Islamic conferences can be established through them.
3. The Noble Qur'an being the Muslims' constitution and the cause of their unity, the meeting recommends that all Islamic societies take the Noble Qur'an as their law.
4. The meeting recommends that all Islamic organizations unify their efforts to confront the "Crusading attack" that imperialism is supporting and which is using all methods in order to do away with Islam.
5. Because Arabic is the language of the Noble Qur'an and the best means of understanding it, appreciating its inimitability, and acquiring its wisdom, the meeting urges missionaries to be concerned about the Arabic language and to learn other languages.
6. The meeting recommends attention to Muslim youth and to strengthening their faith so that they can bear their responsibilities in spreading the message of true Islam and be like their forefathers in carrying the banner of Islam.
7. The meeting emphasizes the role of Islamic books and studies as a provision for missionaries.

At the close of its sessions, the meeting sent a telegram of support to the Muslim revolutionary and brother, Colonel Mu'ammarr al-Qadhdhafi, expressing the participants' readiness to continue their role in the holy war, guided by the principle of Islamic consultation (shura).

During the days of the conference, many citizens of the Republic of Benin announced their conversion to Islam in the presence of the missionaries. Indeed, an entire village in the People's Republic of Benin announced its conversion and entered Islam as a whole in the presence of a World Islamic

Call Society delegation that went to the village, which lies about 100 kilometers from the capital, Cotonou.

[Box, p 9]

According the list we have obtained from the Islamic Call Office and Centers, the West African missionaries are divided as follows:

[Country]	[Number of Missionaries]
Benin.16
Senegal.15
Nigeria.14
Ghana.23
Sierra Leone16
Gambia13
Mali	9
Liberia.	7
Burkina Faso	9
Ivory Coast.	4
Guinea-Bissau.	2
Guinea (Conakry)	1
Togo10
People's Republic of the Congo	3
Cameroon	1
Mauritania	1

--according to 1986 figures.

12937

CSO: 3404/3

BPV HOLD FIRST NATIONAL CONFERENCE, ISSUE WORK GUIDELINES

Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 4 Feb 87 p 12

[Text] The First National Conference of the People's Vigilance Brigades [BPV] ended early last night with the election of their National Committee, comprised of 71 members, and an Executive Secretariat, consisting of eight members.

The National Secretariat-elect is coordinated by Alexandre Lemos de Lucas, "Bota Militar," a member of the party's Central Committee; also including Franca Eusebio dos Santos, as assistant coordinator; Tito Armando dos Santos, for the vigilance area; Abel Gomes dos Santos, for the military-patriotic area; Manuel Martinho, for the ideological area; and Jose Dala Cem, to coordinate the health area.

The 283 delegates present at that supreme function passed a series of resolutions prominent in which is the one associated with the report to the BPV First National Conference which, according to the document, reflects the importance and vitality achieved by our mass youth organization; also citing the difficulties encountered in its practical activity, many of which have been surmounted, and others yet to be surmounted, to accrue greater success in combating counterrevolutionary manifestations and antisocial actions incompatible with the victory of our people's revolution.

The resolution on the "people's vigilance" proposition, approved by the participants, recommends the study of that significant document by all members of the organization, and its use in guiding the practical activity of the People's Vigilance Brigades. The internal regulations of that mass organization also received approval; because they will serve as a fundamental document for the BPV's existence, considering the latter's subsequent development, and the fact that it must be implemented by all members.

The resolution on general work orientation adopts the instructions emanating from the comrade president, Jose Eduardo dos Santos, as a guideline for the action to be taken by the organization during the period 1987-1990, and was accepted as a document guiding all the activity of the People's Vigilance Brigades. The aforementioned document (on general work orientation) also guides the National Committee in the rapid consolidation of the national vigilance system and the formation of cadres for this work front, recommending reinforcement of the collaboration and cooperation with the JMPLA [Youth of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola] Party Youth and the mass and social organizations.

Autonomization of the BPV

One of the resolutions passed during the First National Conference of the People's Vigilance Brigades relates to the autonomization of that mass organization directed and guided by the MPLA-Labor Party.

According to the document, the BPV currently have over 800,000 brigade members (nearly 30 percent of whom are women), organized into 30,000 brigades; and have made a major contribution to the workers' mobilization for the tasks related to the struggle against our people's enemies and in the defense of the conquests attained by the revolution.

Also according to the text, the autonomization of the BPV constitutes another means of achieving socialist democracy, in the context of the global system of revolutionary dictatorship, including the state and the mass and social organizations, and directed by the party. It is a voluntary organization, in which the membership and integration are executed freely and consciously, and it has an autonomous structure of its own, which is not integrated into, nor confused with the party or the state, as the text on autonomization remarks, among other things.

2909

CSO: 3442/151

CAPANDA DAM PROJECT VISITED, DESCRIBED

Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 15 Feb 87 p 1

[Text] Yesterday, in Luanda, the president of the MPLA-Labor Party and of the People's Republic of Angola, Jose Eduardo dos Santos, visited the premises of the main offices of the Middle Kwanza Improvement Office (GAMEK).

On that occasion, the Angolan head of state, who observed in detail the GAMEK central management department, which occupies an area of nearly 4,000 square meters, received from its general director, Jose Sonnenberg, specific information on the current status of the work on the aforementioned undertaking.

With an estimated annual energy potential of 26,000 kilowatts (GHW), the Capanda project, when completed, in addition to constituting an economic development enclave in this region, will have the function of regulating the volume of flow of the Kwanza River, as well as facilitating the construction and operation of other improvements capable of meeting the requirements of the country's northern system and supporting its energy operations.

The general director announced that the Capanda dam will be nearly 114 meters high, having an artificial lake with a volume of 3.7 cubic kilometers, as well as an average annual producible power of 2,400 kilowatts (GWH).

The hydroelectric improvement at Capanda will be multi-purpose, aimed at producing electric power and irrigation; thereby making the agricultural and industrial improvement of the Malanje plateau possible.

The power production will be integrated into the northern system, connecting the Capanda station with that of Cambambe, which currently supplies nearly all the northern section of the People's Republic of Angola. It was also learned that, subsequently, an interconnection of the three power production systems (northern, central, and southern) will be made.

Also to be ensured is a regulated volume of flow of 500 cubic meters per second, which will make possible the construction of the subsequent improved facilities between Capanda and Cambambe, and the agricultural improvement of the alluvial soil between Dondo and the mouth of the river in this municipality, on a total of 120,000 hectares.

It was also learned that the Ministry of Energy and Oil has attempted to procure lines of credit from the governments of the Soviet Union and Brazil (which are also participating in the project); as well as signing agreements and contracts with construction and consulting firms in those countries, so as to back the establishment of the Middle Kwanza improvement projects.

It should be pointed out that the main purpose of GAMEK, among others, is the coordination and control of the execution of the work to be done in Capanda and the promotion of studies, preliminary work, and projects relating to the rational utilization of the water resources in the Middle Kwanza basin.

Concurrently with these tasks, it will be incumbent on GAMEK to heighten the cultural level, occupational training, and scientific and technical self-improvement of its workers.

The head of state was accompanied by the state minister for the productive area, Pedro de Castro Van-Dunem, "Loy"; of the economic and social area, Maria Mambo Cafe; and of the inspection and control area, Kundy Paihama; the minister of defense, Pedro Maria Tonha, "Pedale"; the interior minister, Alexandre Rodrigues, "Kito"; and the party's secretary for the ideological area, Roberto de Almeida.

The ministers of foreign trade, finance, and construction, Ismael Martins, Augusto Teixeira de Matos, and Joao Garcia, "Cabelo Branco," respectively, also served on the presidential delegation which visited the GAMEK facilities.

2909

CSO: 3442/151

MALANJE PROVINCIAL COMMISSARY ON ECONOMIC, POLITICAL SITUATION

Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 1 Mar 87 p 3

[Text] Malanje--Malanje Province, with an area of 97,000 square kilometers, and an estimated population of 875,000 inhabitants, including 14 municipalities and 31 communes, has written in golden letters, with its work and dedication, a brilliant page in the history of the young People's Republic of Angola.

With an economic base founded primarily on agriculture (which is, moreover, the base for our development), Malanje offers excellent conditions for an immediate response to the agrarian sector's investments, through either the peasant, private, or state sector.

Its leading crops are, specifically, cotton, rice, corn, soybeans, tobacco, cassava, sunflowers, beans, and peanuts, among others; and the marketing in the rural areas is the prelude to a genuine worker-peasant alliance.

The MPLA-Labor Party and the Commissariat of Malanje Province have taken action, and constantly increasing action, capable of solving a range of problems stemming from the destabilizing activity of the Angolan renegades and the wounds left by colonialism.

The year 1986 "took off": there were considerable improvements in some areas, but also, as was inevitable, the inadequacies persisted for the province's population, just as, we are certain, they have in other provinces in the country.

The Party Is More Reinforced

For a brief discussion of what the year of defense of the people's revolution represented for this region, and the prospects in sight for the present, we contacted Col Joao Ernesto dos Santos, "Liberdade," member of the Central Committee and provincial commissary for Malanje, who kindly and attentively acceded to our request.

Colonel "Liberdade" remarked that, with the holding of the assemblies and conferences among the party's rank and file, in the intermediate agencies, and its leadership agencies, the party ended up more reinforced, more cohesive and more united; so as to be able to carry out its historic mission, namely, to lead the working masses to the creation of technical-material bases for the building of socialism.

In this connection, he observed: "The party's members managed to complete another task under the guidance of the party's higher leadership," adding that one of the major tasks carried out during last year was the study of the Second Congress resolutions on tasks for the 5-year period 1986-1990.

Concurrently, he noted that other activities had been accomplished, associated with the organs of people's power, with the election of deputies to the Second Legislature, both on the level of the People's Provincial Assembly and that of the People's Assembly.

As Colonel "Liberdade" indicated, the masses of people reacted positively to the party's instruction on the renewal of terms in the organs of people's power, and now (he stressed): "It is up to us to consolidate them, because they were created to defend the most legitimate interests of the working masses."

Politico-Military Situation

Col Joao Ernesto dos Santos, "Liberdade," who is also head of the Military Council of the ninth region, when asked to comment on the politico-military situation experienced during 1986, particularly during its final months, said that there had been significant improvements from the standpoint of stability in the territory of Malanje Province.

He claimed that this was due to the active, conscious participation, not only of the regular troops, but most especially the territorial troops; a stability which, as he pointed out, has made it possible to keep the communications channels with the nation's capital and the province's municipalities operating.

In this regard, he gave as an example the fact that it was possible to create the supply columns for the municipalities farthest removed from the provincial headquarters, such as Marimba, Luquembo, and Kambundi-Katembo.

According to Colonel "Liberdade," one of the services rendered during 1986 was related to the reorganization and formation of the territorial battalions in the municipalities, based on the slogan, "to organize an economy to support the war, and to make war for the defense of the economy."

That senior officer of the FAPLA gave a reminder that, "The territorial battalions constitute the secure rear guard for our regular troops; they constitute the immediate reserve of the ground troops. Hence, they are the troops which carry out their activities in the defense of the municipalities, the leading agricultural production areas, the population, and the strategic economic objectives."

The head of the ninth region's Military Council scored the massacres of the population, kidnappings, and sabotage committed by the puppet gangs in some parts of the province.

Agriculture and Marketing in the Rural Areas

The instructions already existing for the economic and social development of Malanje Province were given special heed during 1986 by the provincial leaders; but their actual implementation suffered direct or indirect effects from the military situation, factors of an organizational nature, and a shortage of skilled labor.

The major action taken during the second half was based mainly on the need for transportation from the nation's capital, and for facilities associated with ATM (Material-Technical Supplies) for the agricultural sector.

The province acknowledged the reception of some work facilities, such as fertilizer and fuel, which were distributed to the priority areas (state, peasant, associative, and private sectors). Despite the ridiculous amounts, they made it possible to take some action in the agricultural area.

Particular attention was given to the marketing process in the rural areas; which made it possible to attain levels higher than those in 1985 during the second half.

Nearly 8,000 tons of various products were marketed. The volume was not greater owing to the failure of the salt, dried fish, rain-coats, blankets, and hats, goods which are much sought after in the rural areas, to arrive in the province, as stipulated in the commercial circulation plan.

Another factor which affected the achievement of higher indexes was the meager involvement of some entities participating in the process, as well as the shortage of transportation facilities for removing the products from the municipalities to the capital city.

This latter factor has been the "Achilles' heel," as we were told by the provincial commissary, noting, by way of example, that there is rice in the municipality of Luquembo, and cotton in Kunda, which have not been removed in over 2 years, for this reason.

As for the supplies to the province's population, the highest ranking official in Malanje Province remarked that, during the last 6 months of 1986, the authorized agencies managed to market nearly 3,250 tons of foodstuffs, and 861 of industrial goods. These volumes were the ones possible to transport from the nation's capital; inasmuch as the transportation problems continued to be the crux of the difficulties. It was on this basis that the MINCI's [Ministry of Internal Trade] Provincial Delegation created the distribution plan both for the headquarters and the province's municipalities.

The provincial commissary admitted that the problem of supplies to the population has not yet been solved, with the aggravating factor that "we don't always find integrity on the part of some workers, officials, or even leaders." Moreover, he added, some leaders have been replaced, and others have accounts to settle with the revolutionary justice system.

Prospects for This Year

In conclusion, the Malanje provincial commissary said that the priority plan for this year is the establishment of the organs of people's power on the municipal level. As he explained, "At present, studies are being made to indicate the municipalities with the requirements for the creation of the Municipal People's Assemblies."

The reactivation of the abandoned areas, the creation and reorganization of the Territorial Battalions, the removal of rice and cotton from the municipalities of Luquembo and Kunda, and the recovery of the province's automotive equipment are also part of the plan of action to be carried out.

Finally, Colonel "Liberdade" emphasized: "It remains for us to move on to practical action, so as to be able to implement the other instructions aimed at creating the social conditions for our workers, and at heightening party activity, in order to continue mobilizing the working masses for their participation in the national reconstruction process."

2909

CSO: 3442/151

BRIEFS

SOVIET TEAM HELPS REPAIR SCHOOLS--Lubango--As part of the orientation outlined by the provincial commissariat, the brigade of Soviet specialists in this town has been carrying out a construction and repair plan for several establishments on different educational levels. In this context, during the past few days the brigade has undertaken the rebuilding of a primary school with a capacity to accommodate nearly 600 pupils. According to information provided by engineer Valeriy Kristich, chief of the aforementioned brigade, the work associated with the projects that it has carried out is aimed at overcoming the difficulties that the educational sector is experiencing from inadequate facilities for coping with the great schooling explosion occurring in the country. Valeriy Kristich also reported that the process of repairing certain establishments includes, primarily, improvements to the water piping systems, the drains, and the electric lighting. The subject of our interview explained that, despite the lack of certain construction materials in the province, the projects are progressing normally. According to Valeriy Kristich, in addition to this work, the brigade which he heads has also scheduled, as part of this effort, the building of a sports complex, parks, and other similar structures. [Text] [Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 1 Mar 87 p 3] 2909

CSO: 3442/151

BRIEFS

FRENCH LOAN--France's Caisse Centrale de Cooperation Economique has granted a loan of six million French francs for a rice growing project worth 14 million on the Comorian island of Moheli. The French minister for co-operation, Michel Aurillac, said on his recent visit to Moroni that total French aid would be increased to 119 million francs in 1987, from 98 million last year. Budgetary aid alone this year will amount to 19.5 million francs, though this is considered to be inadequate by the Moroni government in comparison to the assistance Paris will give to its possession of Mayotte, namely one billion francs over the next five years. [Text] [Paris THE INDIAN OCEAN NEWSLETTER in English 7 Mar 87 p 6] /9317

OPPOSITION REPORTEDLY CHEATED--The Comoros federal assembly will have no opposition member after last weekend's elections. President Ahmed Abdallah had been assured of a majority in advance by the Supreme Court's disqualification of all the opposition candidates in the islands of Anjouan and Moheli, but nobody expected that in "free elections" none of the prominent people standing for the opposition would be awarded a seat. Yet according to serious estimates, if the polls were not rigged the opposition would have received more than 60 percent of the vote on average in the third island, Grand Comoro. Former minister of state Abbas Djoussouf would have won by a 68 percent margin, Said Attoumani 63 percent and Ali Bazi 62 percent. According to information obtained by The Indian Ocean Newsletter, Ahmed Abdallah decided 48 hours before the poll to prevent the election of any of his opponents, contrary to what he had appeared to accept before. It appears that he had been highly annoyed by remarks made by the co-ordinator of the united opposition campaign, Abbas Djoussouf. So the announcement by finance minister and assembly minister Said Ahmed Said Ali on the state radio that Ali Bazi had been elected was denied a few hours later. In a joint letter the opposition leaders branded the polls a "grotesque masquerade exposing the anti-democratic and dictatorial nature of Ahmed Abdallah's regime." The elections were marked by flagrant irregularities ranging from the confiscation of voting cards to the forcible expulsion of opposition assessors from the polling booths where they were replaced by members of the presidential guard and the armed forces. The opposition therefore had no means of monitoring the proper conduct of the election. All the assessors of one candidate, Said Hassan, were arrested, and five of them were still being held on March 26. In addition, all the appeals submitted within the permitted time by the opposition union were rejected

by the Supreme Court. Since the voting the situation has been very tense in Grand Comoro in spite of appeals by the opposition which is anxious at the moment at least to maintain strictly legal behaviour. In a comment on the election to Agence France-Presse President Abdallah said on March 23 that the results showed that "there are no opponents, only the dissatisfied." [Text] [Paris THE INDIAN OCEAN NEWSLETTER in English 28 Mar 87 p 7] /9317

POLITICAL VIOLENCE--According to the official results of the March 22 legislative elections all the government's candidates on Moheli and Anjouan islands received 100 percent of the votes cast in a 95 percent turnout on average. On Grand Comoro 19 of the 20 seats at stake were attributed to government candidates, who were given between 65 and 100 percent of the vote. Given the number of irregularities in the polling, the results have no significance other than to show the desire of the authorities to deny that opposition exists. Even so, the only government candidate admitted to need a run-off, Mohamed Moumini, stepped down, saying his opponent Ali Bazi had won in the first round. The atmosphere has remained very tense in the archipelago. Reports reaching The Indian Ocean Newsletter says that seven bodies of young people who campaigned for the opposition were found in various villages of Grand Comoro. If, as suspected, these are political murders, it would be a new development in Comorian history. Hitherto President Ahmed Abdallah's regime has experienced little political violence. [Text] [Paris THE INDIAN OCEAN NEWSLETTER in English 4 Apr 87 p 6] /9317

CSO: 3400/678

EVOLUTION OF STUDENT RIOTS DETAILED

Classes Resume But Situation Uneasy

Paris INDIAN OCEAN NEWSLETTER in English 21 Feb 87 p 5

[Text]

University classes have resumed but the situation in Antananarivo is still worrying as political leaflets continue to circulate. The arrest on February 14 in extraordinary circumstances of a leader of the student dispute, Cyril Rasanozafy, who according to a reliable source died several days later of injuries he received, threatens to spark off tribal feuding in the south-east and harden the attitude of university teachers and students. That, at least, is the interpretation being put on a statement issued this week by Manassé Esoaelomandroso, secretary-general of the university staff union, the SECES (Syndicat des Enseignants et des Chercheurs de l'Enseignement Supérieur).

Mr Rasanofazy, who is of Antaisaka origin, was arrested during a meeting of an association of natives of the south-east, after being denounced by a civil servant from the ministry for population who is also from the south and is considered an unconditional supporter of president Didier Ratsiraka's AREMA party. The arrest succeeded thanks to a veritable commando operation carried out by members of the presidential guard, the RESEP, and the political police, the DGID, armed with pistols and tear gas. Mr Rasanozafy and three companions who were also injured during the operation, were put in detention in the Fiadamama military camp. The two other principal leaders of the student protest, known by their first names of Frank and Francis (the latter is the nephew of Monja Jaona, head of the oppositionist MONIMA party), went underground two weeks ago and have so far managed to evade arrest.

The Indian Ocean Newsletter also learned this week that AREMA's federation of co-operatives, the Procoops, whose head is Hortense Raveloson Mahasampo, sister-in-law of president Ratsiraka and wife of the defence minister, took delivery in the past few days of a large consignment of anti-riot equipment, in particular rubber bullets. Even so, the soldiers stationed at strategic points in the capital are said to be under orders to fire if necessary the live rounds with which their Kalashnikov assault rifles are kept loaded.

From a source close to the population ministry The Newsletter has also been told of a resurgence of the TTS, the former delinquents who for a long time were used as strongarm agents of the regime. They had kept a very low

profile since the end of 1984, when martial arts practitioners massacred dozens in central Antananarivo to make them put an end to their exactions.

Also noteworthy was the arrest this week of retired gendarmerie captain Philippe Rameloson, shortly after he paid a visit to his daughter on the university campus. Officially, he is accused of being in possession of pamphlets. In fact he is suspected of having links with Colonel Bréchar Rajoanarison, leader of the attempted military coup of December 1974 and one of Didier Ratsiraka's most redoubtable opponents because of his criticisms of the present constitution and of the fact that "the power of the president is controlled by no institution".

Government Response Cautious to Student Unrest

Paris INDIAN OCEAN NEWSLETTER in English 7 Mar 87 p 1

[Text]

Some 50 homes and businesses belonging to the business community of Indian and Pakistani origin were looted and wrecked in two days of rioting on February 28 and March 1 in the town of Antsirabe, 150 kilometres south of Antananarivo. These disturbances, although apparently punitive expeditions against a community which has grown considerably wealthier in the past ten years while the living conditions of native Malagasies have continually worsened, seem to have been far from spontaneous. Numerous observers agree that the Malagasy intelligence services were behind the troubles, in order to divert public anger at deteriorating conditions against scapegoats. A former officer of the gendarmerie was reported to have been seen several times among the pillagers, who seem to have taken great care not to have caused bloodshed.

The MONIMA, Vonjy and MFM parties were also being blamed in some circles, while others accused Moscow, which was said to be annoyed at the direction the country is taking at the moment. Leaflets produced by people with close links to the AKFM, the most pro-Soviet party, have been circulating in Antananarivo claiming that MONIMA, the opposition party of the veteran nationalist Monja Jaona, was preparing to stir up a riot against the Indian and Pakistani district of Tsaralalana.

Such clashes are a feature of Madagascar's modern history, but hitherto Antsirabe had been spared. The Indians and Pakistanis have extensive interests in this industrial town which is dominated by large companies such as COTONA, SACIMEM and STAR. During the debate in the People's Assembly on the new investment code prior to its adoption in June 1985 many voices were raised to stress the advantages it would give to the "karana", the pejorative name that is given to the Asian community.

Meanwhile the government is becoming ever more embarrassed by the student protest movement, which was joined this week by the Faculty of Medecine. For five hours on February 27 fighting raged on the Ankatso campus in Antananarivo between students and gendarmes led by the AKFM

minister Rakotovao Andriantiana, who was acting in his capacity as representative of decentralised communal bodies. The gendarmes did not open fire, but for the first time made use of a powerful irritant gas. They did not succeed in surrounding the university hostels and were forced to retire. Student agitation continues in the provinces, also, notably at Toamasina and Toliary. The government is remaining cautious, in order not to give ammunition to the political parties which are already preparing for the 1988 elections.

The Vonjy leader, Jerome Razanabahiny, a member of the Supreme Revolutionary Council, said at the weekend that his party, which has called for a reform of the constitution and marked separation of powers, would enter a candidate for the presidential elections. (Several hopefuls are already vying for the honour, according to our information.) The daily Maresaka, apparently in tune with public opinion, put the very critical remarks of the Vonjy leader in the context of the elections, noting that hitherto Mr Razanabahiny had always got on well with the regime.

Government Will Negotiate With Students

Paris INDIAN OCEAN NEWSLETTER in English 21 Mar 87 p 6

[Text]

A commission mandated by the government is to meet student and teacher representatives on March 19 in an effort to reach a mutually acceptable solution to the university conflict. It is the first time the government has agreed to negotiate since the students went out on strike five months ago.

In advance of the talks between 7,000 and 10,000 students met in a general assembly on Antananarivo's Ankatso campus at the beginning of this week. The teaching union, meanwhile, asked its members for a mandate to negotiate on their behalf. The government side will be led by the members of the supreme revolutionary council, Justin Rakotonirainy and Rakotovao-Razakaboana, who will represent the ministry for higher education. Facing them will be four delegates from the teachers, two from student unions in the faculties, and, unexpectedly, members of KIM, the movement which has led the strike, and of MAREMA, the student body linked to President Didier Ratsiraka's AREMA party. They will discuss terms for resuming classes, the release of 40 students under arrest and the departure of the police and army from the campus.

I.O.N. - The results of this meeting and the political will of the government to give a proper response to the student grievances will influence the attitude of the deputies Monja Jaona of the MONIMA party, Germain Rakotonirainy of the MFM and Rafenoarisoa Odon of Vonjy when they stage the combined mass meeting scheduled for March 22 in Antananarivo. If it takes place it will signify a breach in the umbrella National Front for the Defence of the Revolution, the only legal organisation for party politics in Madagascar.

/9317

CSO: 3400/86

FRENCH WARSHIP DELIVERS FOOD AID

Paris INDIAN OCEAN NEWSLETTER in English 21 Feb 87 p 4

[Text]

A further sign, if one were needed, of warming relations between France and Madagascar was the arrival in the port of Toliary on February 11 of the French warship Le Rhin, bringing notably 30 tonnes of rice, part of the 100 tonnes of food aid promised by Paris this year. A few days earlier a one million French franc funding agreement for the Antananarivo military hospital was signed by French ambassador Alain Bry (whose speeches in Malagasy are highly appreciated by his audiences) and Madagascar's defence ministry.

French warships only began visiting Madagascar for the first time since 1972 in January 1985, when Antananarivo recognised France as an Indian Ocean state and agreed to its joining the Indian Ocean Commission by reason of its possession of Réunion.

/9317
CSO: 3400/89

SMALL BUSINESSMEN OPPOSE NEW TAX ON IMPORTERS

Paris INDIAN OCEAN NEWSLETTER in English 21 Feb 87 p 8

[Text]

The new tax system introduced last month (see ION N°261) known as the Régime d'Importation Libéralisé (RIL), under which importers have to pay a 10 per cent duty on the value of goods imported from abroad unless more than half their turnover comes from exports, has been an undoubted success. In January the demand for foreign currency was twice as much as the supply (seven million Special Drawing Rights), the daily Madagascar-Matin reported.

However the new tax is opposed by some small importers like the head of the Malagasy Traders' Union, Alfred Raboanarijoana. He considers that the RIL favours the large businesses, most of which are not run by Malagasies, and has said that a request for the 10 per cent levy to be ended or reduced was submitted to the authorities last month.

Meanwhile the Malagasy franc continues to fall in value, and has just broken another psychological barrier. The rate is now 126 to the French franc, compared with 90.12 seven months ago.

/9317

CSO: 3400/89

PAPER REPORTS INCREASE IN IMPORT APPLICANTS

Antananarivo MADAGASCAR MATIN in French 24 Feb 87 pp 1, 6

[Article by Franck Raharison: "February's RIL [Liberalized Import Regulations] Are Not Inconsequential"]

[Text] In February, 213 applicants submitted requests under the RIL compared with only 152 in January, i.e., an increase of 61 applicants. In other words, Malagasy businessmen, who more or less gave the cold shoulder to the first call for applications (see our issue of 4 February), made the difference. And to a certain degree, one can say that this time local businessmen predominated in filling up the quota: \$25,046,393 i.e., more than FMG 19.5 billion. This in fact is the total for contracts this month, i.e., FMG 10.23 million more than in January.

Pursuing our comparison further, we estimate the value of applications at FMG 234 billion for 1987, on condition of course that the pace of requests remains the same. This is significantly higher than Madagascar's real savings which total approximately FMG 140 billion at the present time, and FMG 190 billion at the end of this decade, according to the calculations of the Ministry of Finances.

Finally, through the RIL the state could benefit from about FMG 23 billion because of the fixed 10 percent tax. And no one is on the losing end! Except the consumers who, in addition to this fixed tax, will have to endure the joint effects of the last devaluation of the Malagasy franc and the chronic drop in our currency which yesterday was traded at 129.86 for a French franc (we are now just on FMG 130 for a French franc), as well as inflation.

In examining closely the list of February's applicants, there is good reason to believe that the recovery of some businesses has become a fact. And as a result, the various shortages observed recently may slowly disappear. In fact, when one notes, for example, that SACIMEM (the Antsirabe Melia plant) received a quota for US \$311,959 (approximately FMG 244 million), this is already an encouraging sign of the quality and quantity of cigarettes that will soon be for sale on the market. Moreover, the \$225,833 allocated to the Savonnerie Tropicale company, and the \$102,481 to the Amboanio Cement factory will soon put an end to poor soap and cement substitutes; not forgetting the joint

application by manufacturers and sellers of spare parts which will have the effect of rejuvenating the main island's automobile pool.

Indubitably, the RIL constitutes a lifesaver or oxygen supply for a good number of local businesses and companies which now find themselves in the same boat, and for which "favoritism" and the suspicions raised in the past--whether true or false--are nothing more than a bad memory. The GEM and FIVMPAMA (the two employers' organizations) are pleased with the new import regulations but with some reservations. Thus the fixed 10 percent tax is unanimously criticized: "At a conference on foreign trade last December in Toamasina, we were told that this 10 percent was necessary to avoid another devaluation of the Malagasy franc," the manager of a large hardware business told us. Our contact, who is an active member of the FIVMPAMA, added that "importers should not have to pay for everybody else!" A GEM businessman, also a member of the Antananarivo Chamber of Commerce, confided to us that the criticisms directed against the 10 percent tax in fact only concerned an unreal difficulty. "Traders and other businesses will automatically recover this fixed tax in the sale price. Importers are not as naive as that!"

The heart of the problem, according to what was learned in business circles in the capital, is that the quota allocated to each applicant was insufficient: "The monthly \$8.5 million in imports for a population of nearly 11 million inhabitants is a ridiculous amount" was the comment made by several. However, people will talk about this RIL for a long time to come. On this topic, FIVMPAMA president Andre Ramaroson told us yesterday that the businessmen who are members of this association have many objections to make against the RIL. Possible comments and solutions will be announced by the FIVMPAMA in its gazette for next month.

9824

CSO: 3419/107

WEAKNESS OF NATIONAL CURRENCY DISCUSSED

Antananarivo MADAGASCAR MATIN in French 13 Feb 87 pp 1, 6

[Article by Franck Raharison: "One French Franc = 126 Malagasy Francs: What Should Be the Conclusion?"]

[Text] Clearly sheltered from the buffeting that is currently affecting foreign currency, particularly the U.S. dollar and to some degree the French franc (Fr), the Malagasy franc (FMG) has hardly fluctuated. However, the Malagasy franc has (once again) just crossed a psychological threshold, this time going beyond the mark of FMG 125 to Fr1.

Although our currency yesterday was pegged at more than FMG 126 in relation to the French franc, the latter since the beginning of 1987 has experienced an increase of nearly FMG 3! This slow depreciation of the Malagasy franc, which is disturbing to importers, businessmen, and tourists who frequently go overseas, has had little impact on consumers. At least, in the short term.

Decline?

Should we conclude that the Malagasy franc must henceforth continue in decline? Whether or not it is imposed by the International Monetary Fund, this "forward flight" of the Malagasy franc first of all reflects the state of our economy. Its condition is fairly fragile. Favoring foreign investments in Madagascar, the weakness of the Malagasy franc in relation to that renowned group of currencies in which the French franc remains the standard currency for many Malagasy is nevertheless disturbing.

Will our currency one day have the strength to reverse steam in its favor. The goal is for the Malagasy franc to fall below the FMG 100 to Fr1 level and return to the level it was at 10 years ago; that really is a long shot, a challenge that the country can easily meet although it will be necessary for the national economy to develop in a propitious environment. And that is not yet the case. It must be recognized that the recent measures aimed at liberalizing the economy have not yet set the machinery in motion that will propel trade, industry, and indeed agriculture towards a better future. However, some encouraging signs seem to us to indicate that the Malagasy economy is no longer what it was 4 or 5 years ago.

Turbulence

The Malagasy economy, which floats at the mercy of the dollar, the yen, the deutsche mark, other francs, and the internal economic situation, was not impervious to the financial and monetary turbulence that occurred recently in Europe and the United States. Nevertheless, despite a significant drop in the greenback, the Malagasy franc has not shifted. As a matter of fact, on Tuesday 10 February, the exchange rate for the dollar between banks in Paris was Fr5.985 compared with Fr6.13 at the beginning of the month.

This sudden drop in American currency was due to last week's cancellation of a meeting of the "Big Five" (United States, Japan, FRG, France, Great Britain) on questions of a purely monetary nature. The canceled meeting resulted in heavy speculation on the dollar by exchange brokers.

On the other hand, the French franc recently has not been subject to major swings, and France may even benefit from the capital that has been reinvested in the deutsche mark. French Minister of Finance Edouard Balladur is also said to have the intention of lowering interest rates a little. Such an initiative should therefore strengthen the French franc, and will have a corresponding effect on the Malagasy franc.

9824

CSO: 3419/107

EFFECTS OF WAGE HIKE EXAMINED

Antananarivo MADAGASCAR MATIN in French 18 Feb 87 pp 1, 6

[Article by Adelson Razafy: "Public Service Salaries Raised 9.6 Percent"]

[Excerpts] Everything comes to him who waits. The measures announced by the president of the republic during the presentation of greetings ceremony on 12 January at the Ambohitsorohitra Palace are being progressively implemented. Among the most anticipated was the increase in public service salaries which will go into effect on 1 March 1987, and the provision of decree No 87-010 of 19 January 1987, published in the official gazette of 7 February.

Implemented in the way the revolutionary authorities have taught public servants to expect, the pay increase this time as at others will take the form of an increase in the annual value of the index level. Whereas the latter was set at FMG 1,250 on 3 July 1985, as of 1 March it will be increased to FMG 1,370. With this FMG 120 rise, the value of the index level thus marks a 9.6 percent rise in relation to the preceding one.

What will these abstract figures mean in concrete terms?

People had realized that this uniform 9.6 percent increase in the value of the index level would not be applied in the same way to the various rungs on the civil service hierarchy, but this fact, which may appear iniquitous, calls for a few remarks.

In the first place, the pay increase for civil servants has always been implemented in the form of an increase in the annual value of the index level so as not to disturb the hierarchical classification of civil servant bodies that was painstakingly worked out 9 years ago now, and which the personnel in the public service has now approved by consensus. In this system, based on position and diplomas, both salary and raises are determined according to the formula "to each according to his work."

Secondly, the once considerable range of salaries in the public service has undergone an equally considerable reduction by the revolutionary authorities with the goal of establishing better social justice. The minimum index (275 in category I) and the maximum index (2,620) in category X) provide a relationship of 1 to 10, which is fair if one compares it with the ranges one

finds elsewhere. Progressively higher taxes on income, moreover, gnaws at the resources of those on big salaries and reduces the discrepancy even further.

This increase is not intended to bring the salary of civil servants in line with the cost of living. During the same period of time, the cost of rice, a vital commodity and therefore a current indicator for consumers, underwent a much sharper increase than the 9.6 percent of the raise. However, one can perceive in the increase the concern not to let prices move dangerously ahead of salaries. In any case, the measure will have a soothing effect on public servants, many of whom, hard hit by inflation, will certainly not reject this manna.

Soaring Prices

It is perhaps to be feared that, suddenly let loose on the market, this monetary mass brought about by the wage hikes will make prices soar. Indeed, since it does not correspond to any tangible increase in the production of goods, it could swell demand while the supply remains stationary. In fact, the recent measures devaluating the Malagasy franc will amortize the general effect of the raise. Although in small isolated towns, where civil servants make up the majority of the clientele, prices will rise noticeably, elsewhere, in the more heavily populated, more open cities, the inflationary effects of the increase will be felt less. Since no consistent calculations can be made on this question considering the data we have, it can only be hoped that the harmful consequences of this beneficent measure will be reduced as much as possible.

However, one thing is obvious: with us, there is no automatic indexation of salaries to prices (a practice that directly nourishes inflation); quite the contrary, salary hikes in the public service as in the private sector are approved only piecemeal. Before they are applied, measures of this sort are studied and their economic repercussions examined. This is what has spared us the disastrous, uncontrolled effects of inflation so common elsewhere. Let us hope it will always be that way.

9824

CSO: 3419/107

OIL PROSPECTING STUDIES REPORT NEGATIVE FINDINGS

Paris INDIAN OCEAN NEWSLETTER in English 7 Mar 87 p 7

[Text]

After cutting down on personnel the American oil company Amoco, which has been prospecting in Madagascar, has just begun moves to reduce its activities in the country, leaving one representative behind. Officials have been told not to discuss this move by Amoco, which according to some reports will be followed by other companies, including Agip and Mobil.

I.O.N.- At the beginning of last year Amoco decided to end prospecting in Madagascar for one year, in order to carry out detailed geological studies in its Chicago offices (see ION N°218). The results of those studies have been negative, with the geologists concluding that there was little chance of finding oil in the area under exploration (Morondava). However, Amoco asked other companies to take a share in its licence, which would have meant sinking more wells, but without success. Even so, the company wants to keep a toehold in Madagascar, and is negotiating with the government an extension of its licence for a further 18 months, but without obligation to drill. The drilling equipment which was in Morondava has been transferred to Kenya, where Amoco is currently sinking two wells (required by the contract) in block two, close to the border with Somalia.

/9317

CSO: 3400/89

BRIEFS

CONDITIONAL RESUMPTION OF CLASSES—Normally, Ankatso students would be in the seats of the auditoriums. But in fact they were not there. What was the cause and the reasons for their absence? We won't talk about it because everybody is more or less up to date on the subject. In order not to be treated like citizens who are incapable of understanding the ins and outs of the problems involved in the exercise of their profession, the members of the Higher Education Union of Teachers and Researchers (SECES) held a general meeting on Tuesday morning. Not without regret, they noted that they had been ignored in decisions relative to their profession. However, they left it up to the teachers' colleges to decide whether to return to work or to continue class stoppage. From this conference involving each institution, it appeared that provisionally classes would recommence this morning, but that the return to work would be subject to some conditions, namely that classes should be held in safe and peaceful circumstances, and that the authorities affirm their desire to seek genuine remedies for the major problems of the university in particular, and of higher education in general. [Text] [Antananarivo MADAGASCAR MATIN in French 13 Feb 87 p 1] 9824

9824

CSO: 3419/107

MAURITIUS

MMM: ELECT PRESIDENT BY UNIVERSAL VOTE

Port Louis LE NOUVEAU MILITANT in French 8 Feb 87 p 4

[Excerpt] Discussions in the MMM are moving towards the establishment of a system which would allow the election of a president by universal suffrage, Paul Berenger, leader of the party announced yesterday at the end of a meeting of the central committee. The MMM is advocating increased powers for the president, compared with what was proposed at the beginning of 1986.

Berenger declared that the MMM is also involved in a profound discussion about the reorganization of the ministries, the method of choosing the speaker, the amendment of the standing orders, the powers and an increased role for the ombudsman and an antifugitive law.

The MMM has been studying since the beginning of 1986 the republic proposal based on experience on the subject in India, France, Portugal and Austria. The central committee relying on a report of the politburo studied the question yesterday and the discussions centered on a better sharing of powers between the president and the prime minister.

The discussions will continue in detail and the MMM will complete its proposals in the coming days, Berenger again announced.

The MMM leader also indicated that the party has sped up its activities in a mobilized-recruiting spirit to gear up its electoral machine in the coming months and decide on its choice of candidates. Berenger announced "an increase of meetings, extended meetings and meetings of regional committees," while the government program is going to be brought up to date in February.

If on the subject of institutions, the discussions have concentrated particularly on the president and the reorganization of ministries, with respect to the economy, the MMM is working steadily to complete a document which will substantiate figures indicating that the country's economic reform was made possible thanks to decisions taken by the MMM in the government from June 1982 to March 1983.

8490

CS0: 3419/109

MAURITIUS

MMM LEADER CRITICIZES GOVERNMENT EDUCATION POLICY

Port Louis LE NOUVEAU MILITANT in French 15 Feb 87 pp 2,3

[Text] National unity and sharing of power between the prime minister and the president of a possible republic were the two main subjects of the MMM [Mauritian Militant Movement] meeting last Tuesday at Petit Raffray. At this meeting which brought together a sizeable crowd, the MMM's leader Paul Berenger and president Dharmamand Fokeer spoke, as well as Prem Nababsing, Krisna Baligadoo, Swaley Kasenally, Prem Koonjoo, Satish Geemul and Vijayen Pillay.

For the MMM president, the young people who have just found out the results of their examinations, have no future in this country. He declared that the education policy has been a complete failure because nothing is planned for those who have not succeeded in the examinations.

Dharam Fokeer severely condemned the government's decision to drop proposed professional schools. The MMM president said that the country's leaders had done everything to drive young people toward drugs.

Paul Berenger warned the people about the communal maneuvers of the Alliance. He affirmed that the MMM is the only really national party which defends the rights of all the people. "A MMM victory is imminent, but it is necessary for all the people to feel knit together and united; no community must feel that it is not part of this team," Paul Berenger declared.

The party leader announced that the MMM intends to make the island of Mauritius a republic with a president elected by universal suffrage as soon as possible. Paul Berenger declared, "it is necessary to share power between the prime minister and the president because it is not desirable to have all power concentrated in the hands of a single man."

In addition, he announced that the MMM will present a slate symbolizing national unity for the next general elections.

Paul Berenger emphasized that the prime minister is obliged to summon the people to the polls because he does not have the majority in parliament. According to him, A. Jugnauth does not deserve his position because he has twice squandered the majority in parliament.

Paul Berenger as well as Dr Prem Nababsing spoke about the country's economic situation. The first declared that the economic recovery which the country is experiencing now is the result of measures taken in 1982 by the MMM-PSM [Mauritian Socialist Party] government and the world economic situation. As for Dr Prem Nababsing, he stated that in spite of economic progress, the people in general have not benefited in terms of better services, whether it is in public health or public transport. He explained that the government simply has favored the capitalists by providing them with many opportunities.

Dr Swaley Kasenally pointed out that the government has not kept its promises to the small planters. According to him, it is intolerable for the government to maintain a 17 percent stamp duty on insecticides. He wondered if the small planters benefited from the country's economic progress.

Krisna Baligadoo stated, on his part, that it is wrong for the Public Accounts Committee to be able to investigate the Plessey affair. He asserted that with the adjournment of parliament, this organization is automatically dissolved.

Prem Koonjo criticized the Mafia, which, according to him, was protected by the government. He added that the collapse of the Alliance was foreseeable, as soon as the PMSD [Mauritian Social Democratic Party] joined it.

Satish Geemul declared "the Mauritian passport has become a symbol of the drug traffic and is a disgrace for our country." He added that the people regretted having voted for the Alliance in the last elections. He asked the electorate to correct its mistake by trusting the MMM. He said "this party is the country's only hope."

Instability Condemned

The day before, Monday, Krisna Baligadoo, Dinesh Mundil, Jose Arunasalom, Rajesh Bhagwan and Ravin Dwarka who sponsored a meeting at Congomah firmly denounced the incompetent regime which is responsible for the instability the country is experiencing and the spread of drug traffic.

The speakers emphasized "the crumbling of the Alliance over the months testifies to Jugnauth's lack of leadership." Baligadoo stressed "new apportionment or not, the MMM will record a smashing victory once more at Port Louis Nord/Montagne Long," while Bhagwan was to place the emphasis on the admirable work accomplished in parliament by the three district deputies. He stated, "they do not miss any opportunity to bring up problems facing the various localities of the region, including Congomah."

Speaking of the damage which instability is causing the country, Arunasalom affirmed: "For Jugnauth nobody is good. In fact, it is he himself who is no good." The speaker emphasized the seriousness of Jugnauth's statement that the drug problem was a legacy of the SSR government.

Arunasalom stated it has been fully proved that Brown Sugar was introduced in the country after 1983, while most of those summoned before the Rault Committee were representatives of the Alliance.

Arunasalom concluded speaking about the fate of the small planters. "Many promises that the duty on the export of sugar was going to increase and the guarantee that the sugar mills were not going to be closed. Now the truth is that some mills have been closed and others will be closed between now and 1990." This creates a serious problem for the planters because they are forced to transport their cane elsewhere for weighing. In fact, they must wait a long time, which bothers them considerably because they get in the harvest on the basis of a quota system.

Baligadoo requested the inhabitants of Congomah to consider their fate since 1983. "The transportation problem illustrates it. For many months we have been struggling to get three important village streets--Ramlackhan, Belvedere and Blackburn--paved, but in vain," he emphasized.

For Baligadoo and Mundil, the falls in prices of rice, essential products--oil, cement, rice and gasoline should have already taken place several months ago. They stated that "they waited until the eve of the elections for vote-getting reasons."

Drugs

Before criticizing the (zougaderes) deputies who do not hesitate to issue bad checks, Baligadoo indicated "Jugnauth does not have the right to criticize Dr Ramgoolam about drugs. So depite fine amene drugs et li fine soutire [Creole words]."

Mundil recalled the role played by the FMI/POP whose leader was a candidate in August 1983 with the involvement of the PMSD. He reminded, "since that period the MMM has not stopped repeating that the drug dealers are close to the Alliance."

Mundil recalled the intrigue about the 57 million rupees before saying that the economic recovery was due to measures, which were certainly difficult, introduced by the MMM/PSM government in the 1982/83 budget.

The deputy pointed out the circumstances in which Jugnauth was forced to endorse setting up an investigating committee on drugs, although he knew that his deputies "fine sarye [Creole words] drugs for all young people."

He responded to the term jathi bechwa [not further identified] which the Alliance used against MMM leaders by saying in fact events show that the real jathi bechwas are in the ranks of the government because of everything which has been done against young people (drugs, unemployment), the consumers, planters and attacks on religious freedom and democracy.

MAURITIUS

LABOR LEADERS REFUSE CANDIDACIES UNDER JUGNAUTH

Port Louis LE NOUVEAU MILITANT in French 22 Feb 87 p 2

[Text] Kailash Purryag and Youssouf Mohamed, two labor leaders and members of parliament will not be candidates in the next general elections, in case the labor party is again in a coalition led by the present Prime Minister Aneerood Jugnauth. Moreover the PMSD allied with the MSM [Mauritius Socialist Movement] has decided not to respect any arrangement which the MSM could conclude in Rodrigues with deputy France Felicite and to put forward two candidates from the ranks of the PMSD.

Purryag had resigned as minister of health on 6 Jan 1986 together with ministers Bhayat, Pillay and Gayan in what was called a gesture of disavowal of the leadership of Jugnauth and that several days after the extensive international scandal of Amsterdam had just besmirched the government. Questioned about the possibility of his again being a candidate of a coalition led by Jugnauth, Purryag declared he is a "man of principle." His close friends indicated that it was not a question of Purryag who resigned in January 1986 on a matter of principle, scoffing at this same principle in the coming general elections.

Purryag was elected under the standard of the Alliance at Curepipe/Midlands in August 1983 and was appointed minister of health when Sir Satcam Boolell was dismissed in February 1984.

On his part, Mohamed told LE NOUVEAU MILITANT that "it was not a matter of running under the leadership of Jugnauth," and in case the labor party concludes an alliance with the present prime minister, he will withdraw from the political scene.

It is reported in MSM circles that Jugnauth will personally endorse all the candidacies of his labor and PMSD allies. According to a formula mentioned in MSM circles, these labor and PMSD candidates must "owe allegiance first and foremost" to Jugnauth. In this context, a certain number of potential labor candidates, including Anil Baichoo and Seemadree Virahsawmy are already out of the running.

It is also confirmed that Jugnauth firmly intends to propose some new candidates on the labor slate where the MSM has already filled it up.

On the PMSD side, Jugnauth opposes some persons again being candidates, including Nanda Kistnen and Mrs Ghislaine Henry, but insists on that of Herve Duval. The leader of the PMSD himself contemplates launching his son, Luc Xavier Duval, in the election race. The young Duval will take the place of his uncle Herve Duval at Beau-Bassin/Petite Riviere.

Still as regards the PMSD, this party has decided to put forward two candidates in Rodrigues. According to Alain Driver, secretary general of the PMSD, who was questioned by LE NOUVEAU MILITANT, "Felicite does not represent anything in Rodrigues."

In case the MSM will insist on supporting the candidacy of Felicite, the PMSD will try nevertheless to carry two tickets.

Driver added, "at Rodrigues, it is a PMSD-Serge Clair match."

8490

CS0: 3419/109

BERENGER REPORTED FAVORITE PRESIDENTIAL CHOICE

Paris INDIAN OCEAN NEWSLETTER in English 7 Mar 87 p 4

[Text] The week also saw another important event in Mauritius: The MMM said it would officially offer the post of prime minister to Dr Nuvin Ramgoolam, son of the late governor-general and former Labour Party leader Sri Seewoosagur Ramgoolam. Paul Berenger, head of the MMM, would be proposed as president of a future republic. The MMM's move stirred up the argument within the Labour Party which is officially a member of the government coalition but whose leader, Sir Satcam Boolell, is under strong criticism. A few days beforehand a public opinion poll on the results of a future presidential election said Mr Berenger would top the poll, with 28 percent of the vote, followed by Mr Jugnauth (21 percent), Mr Ramgoolam (21 percent), deputy prime minister Sir Satcam Boolell (seven percent), MMM deputy leader Prem Nababsingh (five percent) and dissident former government chief whip Harish Boodhoo (one percent).

/9317

CSO: 3400/87

MPS ACCUSED OF DRUG TRAFFICKING

Paris INDIAN OCEAN NEWSLETTER in English 7 Mar 87 p 4

[Text] The opposition and dissident members of Mauritian prime minister Anerood Jugnauth's party called for his resignation this week after the publication of a preliminary report by the commission investigating drug dealing in the country.

The report accused six members of parliament of the ruling coalition of being involved in drug trafficking: Suren Poonith, Lutchmeeparsad Ramsahok, Ismael Nawoor, Sattyanund Pelladoah, Amba Chinien and Serge Thomas. Three of them were arrested in December 1985 in Amsterdam after being found with 21 kilos of heroin in their possession, but only Mr Pelladoah was tried and jailed.

The report of the commission, chaired by judge Sir Maurice Rault, also said the former head of the intelligence service, Harry Mungroosingh, had "betrayed his country" and been the active accomplice of the drug barons. Mr Jugnauth, who was praised for his integrity, immediately demanded that the six MPs resign. But the opposition Mouvement Militant Mauricien noted that Sir Maurice Rault, who was the government candidate for vice-president of a future Mauritian republic, had refrained from mentioning the alleged close links between the drug bosses and the parties in power, even though these were described in detail last week at the drugs trial in Saint Denis de la Reunion (See ION No 271).

/9317

CSO: 3400/87

AID FOR SUGAR INDUSTRY, ENERGY DEVELOPMENT

Paris INDIAN OCEAN NEWSLETTER in English 21 Feb 87 p 7

[Text] Donor countries and organisations meeting in Paris on February 17 and 18 approved the programme to modernise the Mauritian sugar industry and develop energy resources submitted by finance minister Vishnu Lutchmeenaraidoo. The cost of the four-year programme is put at 170 million dollars. The minister said the sums promised were already greater than this, and his government would choose the most advantageous offers. The principal creditors are expected to be France's Caisse Commerciale pour la Cooperation Economique and the Saudi Development Fund, whose terms are very favourable. The European Investment Bank, the European Economic Community, the Overseas Development Association, the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa, the African Development Bank, the International Finance Corporation and the World Bank, the Nordic Investment Bank, Australia, West Germany, India, Pakistan and the United States were also represented at the meeting. A large share of the funds allocated will be used to increase the production of electricity from bagasse (sugar cane residue). Already under way is a project for a thermal power station intended to be producing 20 additional megawatts of electricity by 1989, in order to satisfy the fast rising demand for energy (up 10 percent in 1986) which has resulted from strong economic growth (six percent last year). Mr Lutchmeenaraidoo also confirmed that Mauritius was now able to do without International Monetary Fund stand-by loans, of which five have been granted in the past few years.

/9317

CSO: 3400/87

EXCHANGE CONTROLS TO BE ABOLISHED

Paris INDIAN OCEAN NEWSLETTER in English 21 Feb 87 p 7

[Text] Mauritian finance minister Vishnu Lutchmeenaraidoo announced in Paris on February 18 that his government planned to abolish exchange controls totally within the next two years in order to make Mauritius an off-shore banking centre in the medium term.

Mr Lutchmeenaraidoo also announced the opening by the end of the year of a stock exchange in Mauritius. Preliminary studies have been carried out with the assistance of the Lyons exchange (see ION No 243). "We are increasingly convinced that tight exchange controls only serve to encourage fraud, and that the confidence factor will lead to more money being brought into the country than taken out," the minister said, adding that he was determined to make Mauritius a country "even more attractive than Singapore."

/9317

CSO: 3400/87

BRIEFS

RSA INVESTORS TO VISIT--Some 60 South African businessmen will visit Mauritius from March 28 to April 5. Jean-Michel de Senneville, the Mauritian commercial representative in South Africa who is organising their trip considers that the political situation in South Africa is leading many of that country's businessmen, including a number of expatriate Mauritians, to invest in Mauritius. He said on Mauritian television on March 17 that the South Africans will bring about a marked diversification in the activities of the export processing zone which presently are concentrated on textiles. [Text] [Paris INDIAN OCEAN NEWSLETTER in English 21 Mar 87 p 7] /9317

INCREASED FRENCH AID FOR TOURISM--The French ambassador to Mauritius, Philippe Petit, said on March 18 that France is planning to announce increased aid to Port Louis at the next meeting of the joint commission in Paris from March 23 to 25. Mauritius will request assistance for the development of the Agalega archipelago in order to begin a tourist industry there. [Text] [Paris INDIAN OCEAN NEWSLETTER in English 21 Mar 87 p 7] /9317

EARLY ELECTIONS EXPECTED--The government is expected imminently to announce general elections for late August, now it can not get its budget proposals through parliament, where it controls only 27 of the 67 seats. Prime minister Anerood Jugnauth has already launched a one-man election campaign to try to limit the damage of the drug scandal, following accusations of drug dealing against six government MPs by the Rault inquiry (see ION No 272). Former government chief whip Harish Boodhoo meanwhile is threatening to reveal the names of more alleged drug dealers once Mr Jugnauth has published the list of his party's candidates for the election. Many new names are expected to feature on the list. The opposition Mouvement Militant Mauricien, for its part, last weekend organised a Women's Congress at Rose Hill attended by some 3,000 delegates. [Text] [Paris INDIAN OCEAN NEWSLETTER in English 14 Mar 87 p 7] /9317

CSO: 3400/88

MOZAMBIQUE

DOS SANTOS REGRETS STATE OF TIES WITH PORTUGAL

MB231732 Dakar PANA in English 1725 GMT 23 Apr 87

[Text] Lisbon, 23 April (AIM/PANA)—The speaker of the Mozambican People's Assembly, Marcelino dos Santos, expressed regret in Lisbon today at the stagnation of relations between his country and Portugal. Relations between the two countries were only excellent at the level of intentions, he said.

Dos Santos was passing through Lisbon on his way to Nicaragua for a meeting of the Interparliamentary Union.

He said that Mozambique could not understand the obstacles to better bilateral relations with Portugal and mentioned the fact that individuals who posed as representatives of the armed bandits in Mozambique could remain in Portugal with impunity, while they attacked both Mozambican and Portuguese economic targets.

They say these individuals being in Portugal is in line with norms of Western democracy.... We cannot accept the practical results of these norms, Dos Santos said.

/8309

CSO: 3400/622

EDITORIAL PRAISES 10 YEARS OF COOPERATION WITH USSR

Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 24 Mar 87 p 1

[Editorial: "A Favorable Assessment"]

[Text] Within a few days we will be celebrating the 10th anniversary of the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation between the People's Republic of Mozambique [RPM] and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR). In that context, it is useful to make a brief overall assessment of the development of cooperation between the two countries--cooperation that provides continuity with the support which, during the armed struggle for national liberation, the Soviet Union gave to the Mozambican people led by the Mozambique Liberation Front.

In the 10 years that have passed since the signing of the treaty, relations between the RPM and the USSR have developed and deepened. They have found expression at both the party and the government level and in the mass organizations, covering such disparate areas as education, defense, art and culture, health, geology and mines, Navy, fisheries, and geodesy and mapping, to mention only a few. Trade between the two countries has also grown. In fact, it is difficult to name an area of national activity in which cooperation with the USSR does not exist or has not existed.

The conclusion that we can draw today in our assessment of that cooperation is that generally speaking, it has yielded good results in all areas, although in some of them it has been affected by the wartime situation which is being experienced by the country and which has necessarily led to the postponement of a number of development projects.

Another conclusion we can draw from these 10 years of cooperation with the USSR is that that cooperation has been all the more successful to the extent that the projects in question were designed in terms of our own real capabilities.

And it has been less successful in those cases--much less numerous--where the projects in question exceeded our capacity for execution and management, as experience has shown.

As examples of particularly successful areas of cooperation between the two countries, the following can be mentioned:

1. Fisheries.
2. Technical cooperation in the field of education and health.
3. The program for opening up waterways in Gaza Province.
4. The construction of a ship repair complex in Maputo that is capable of repairing 90 ships a year.
5. Establishment of the farm implement factory in Beira.

An important point to be noted is that those as well as other cooperative actions with the USSR are strategic in nature—that is, they are actions which can make possible a change in the country's productive structure and a quantitative and qualitative increase in the working class. Also deserving of mention in that context are the cooperative actions in connection with the coal program, the search for petroleum and gas, the construction of irrigation systems, the development of cottongrowing, and the programs for technical-vocational training.

Because of their enormous importance to our country, we should also mention cooperation in the military area and the fact that a considerable portion of the fuel we consume is being supplied to us on credit by the Soviet Union.

At the latest meeting by the Mozambican-Soviet Intergovernmental Commission, which was held this very month in Maputo, the two parties evinced satisfaction at the way in which the cooperation programs are being carried out and expressed the political will of both governments to develop that cooperation.

Another important point to be noted is that many of the cooperative actions with the USSR have a very direct and immediate application in terms of the Economic Rehabilitation Program, thereby corresponding to what are currently our major priorities.

In short, as we approach the 10th anniversary of the treaty, we for our part can assess quite favorably the cooperation that has been achieved and express our conviction that in coming years, the ties already uniting the two parties, peoples, and states will develop even further.

11798

CSO: 3442/126

RSA RAID ON ZAMBIA VIEWED AS TYPICAL OF APARTHEID REGIME

MB260715 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1730 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Commentary by Leonel Matusse, Radio Mozambique journalist]

[Excerpts] Zambian citizens were the only ones who died under the murderous bullets of a South African commando unit which attacked the border town of Livingstone this morning. The Zambian Government said that four people were killed and rejected South African allegations that it has killed five ANC guerrillas. President Kaunda's spokesman classified the statements by the Pretoria regime issued this morning as absurd.

Another regrettable action has taken place in our region. Indeed it is regrettable, but did not come as a surprise as such. Actually, as the ANC has stated, we must be prepared to witness even more serious actions.

Apartheid is aggressive and will remain so while it exists because that is its nature and basis of survival, just like with Hitler's nazism. What is in fact happening is that the apartheid regime, under pressure from internal problems, is desperately trying to play the trump card of exporting the turmoil to neighboring countries. But all this is in vain because nowadays it has become clear to the entire world that the focal point of the southern African conflict is the struggle of the South African people who want to topple apartheid and that this regime is the cause of the climate of instability prevailing in the region. It suffices to recall that this terrorist action was preceded by a wave of threats against the Frontline States.

There is nothing capable of saving apartheid. The important thing, however, is that actions like these serve to open the ears of those who remain deaf to the voice of reason. Apartheid must fall and all humanity has responsibilities in the struggle against this inhuman system, responsibilities which imply a common ground between words and actions.

The struggle will not stop within South Africa. Actually, in its statement the ANC asks how many more massacres and aggressions are needed until certain Western countries convince themselves that it is necessary to apply sanctions against Pretoria. The statement then stresses that the ANC will continue to intensify its struggle until total victory over apartheid.

/8309

CS0: 3400/623

CHIPANDE ON DPRK SUPPORT, 'PEACE REUNIFICATION'

MB251559 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 25 Apr 87

[Text] Defense Minister Army General Alberto Chipande has sent a message of congratulations to his DPRK counterpart, Vice Marshal O Chin-u, on the occasion of the 55th anniversary of the founding of the DPRK People's Army. In his message, Alberto Chipande expresses Mozambique's support for the DPRK party, government, and people in the struggle they are waging for the peaceful reunification of Korea.

Jose Oscar Monteiro, member of the Political Bureau and minister in the presidency for state administration, returned to Maputo this morning from the DPRK where he attended the celebrations marking of the 75th birthday of Kim Il-song on behalf of President Joaquim Chissano. During his stay in the DPRK, Oscar Monteiro was able to review the existing cooperation between the two countries, particularly in the field of agriculture. Minister Oscar Monteiro was accompanied by Aurelio Chambau, administrator of Chokwe district.

Aboard the same plane was Minister of Culture Luis Bernardo Honwana who attended the opening of Mozambique culture week in the Norwegian capital, Oslo.

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CSO: 3400/623

SWEDISH FOREIGN MINISTER DISCUSSES COOPERATION WITH REGION

Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 10 Mar 87 pp 1, 3

[Report on interview with Sten Andersson, Swedish minister of foreign affairs, by Carlos Cardoso of AIM, in Stockholm on 16 February 1987; first three paragraphs are NOTICIAS introduction]

[Text] "The armed bandits in Mozambique have already cost Swedish taxpayers hundreds of millions of kronor, but I feel that South Africa is never going to pay us that money," said Sweden's minister of foreign affairs, Sten Andersson, during an interview with Carlos Cardoso of the AIM that we are publishing below.

In that interview, the head of Swedish diplomacy discusses issues related not only to the situation in Mozambique—a country with which Sweden maintains close relations of cooperation and friendship—but also to the general problems of southern Africa.

Andersson says that a maximum effort must be made to bring about a decision by the Security Council concerning sanctions to be applied to the apartheid regime in South Africa.

Sten Andersson is Sweden's minister of foreign affairs. For 20 years he was secretary general of the Swedish Social Democratic Party—the number two man in the party after the chairman.

It is said of him in Stockholm that he could have been Olof Palme's successor as head of the Social Democratic Party, but that he never wanted to be number one. It is also said, however, that he is the one who has decided most of his government's foreign policy since the disappearance of Palme, whose universalist bent made him the architect and chief agent of Swedish foreign policy for years and years while he also served as prime minister.

So while foreign policy was decided in the prime minister's office before Palme's tragic death in February 1986, that responsibility has now returned to the ministry itself, and more than a few people told me that many officials in that ministry are a little disturbed by the pace which Andersson wants to impose on foreign policy, especially as regards southern Africa.

It had been agreed that from Maputo, I would send Stockholm a list of the topics to be covered in the interview scheduled for last 16 February. Instead of topics, I sent questions.

He received me in his spacious and soberly furnished office. Tall and more old than young, Sten Andersson conveys the image when one first meets him of being an energetic, curious, and affable man for whom moral principles are not inevitably to be ignored when engaging in politics or carrying out a state's affairs. It is as though, at heart, he prefers spontaneous, down-to-earth answers instead of the careful speech of those whose office requires that they measure the substance of their words in millimeters.

The introductions were barely over--Anders Nilsson of the AIM and Kok Nam of TEMPO were also there--before he handed me written answers to the questions I had sent from Maputo. He immediately noticed my disappointment: a "live" interview is always less restrained--more free of the natural constraints that a minister's officials impose on answers when they prepare them for the minister. He noticed it, and he let it be known that those written answers could serve as a starting point.

I gave a quick glance at the answers and said: "Mr Minister, I would like to pressure you on one or two points." He smiled, and it turned out that he had more to say than what was included in those written answers. But before getting into that, here are the original questions and answers.

Question: "In an interview at the end of 1985, the AIM asked then Prime Minister Olof Palme if he felt that the states and companies owning property in countries in southern Africa had the right to demand compensation from South Africa for the destruction caused by the destabilization brought about by Pretoria. He answered that his attorneys had told him that morally and from the standpoint of international law, that right undoubtedly existed. What is Sweden's current position on that question? Does it intend to take the matter to the United Nations or to some other international forum?"

Andersson: "Our position on the question of compensation for the destruction caused by South Africa's destabilizing policy remains the same as that explained by Olof Palme in the answer he gave you when he said that according to Swedish experts on international law, South Africa is 'obligated to make compensation' for violations of international law.

"It is our opinion that international law is very clear on this matter of being able to demand compensation. But I am not aware that any Swedish party intends to raise the issue."

Question: "If the UN Security Council does not call for the imposition of compulsory sanctions on South Africa, will Sweden apply them unilaterally? And will there be coordination with the other Nordic countries?"

Andersson: "We are continuing to work actively on behalf of a UN Security Council decision in favor of effective sanctions against South Africa. If the council does not adopt compulsory sanctions, we hope it will recommend that

its member states adopt additional measures. Sweden can act quickly and will do so in either case. Only if both fail will we have to consider what we can do unilaterally in addition to the steps we have already taken. If either of those alternatives is adopted, there will be consultations within the group of Nordic countries, as has also been the case so far."

Question: "Sweden is one the chief countries contributing to the SADCC. Why? Besides any other reasons, is it your opinion that southern Africa may acquire strategic importance as far as the future of Sweden is concerned?"

Andersson: "The reasons for our support of the SADCC and the SADCC's member countries, including Mozambique, are obvious and well known. We consider it important not only that there should be increased international pressure on South Africa to abandon apartheid--which we see as a threat to world peace and security--but also that there should be increased support for the victims and opponents of apartheid, including the Front Line countries.

"Sweden is too far from southern Africa to have any 'strategic interests' there. Our position is a matter of principle--a principle which may at some point in the future take on the same importance in our part of the world."

Here I make my first "aside," since the above question and answer reflect different configurations in political philosophy.

I recall the 1984 meeting in Arusha between the Front Line states and the Socialist International, at which the two parties adopted a double strategy as being a viable one for eliminating apartheid: sanctions against Pretoria and a strengthening of the economies of the SADCC and Front Line countries.

I recall that that decision corresponded--as it still does--to the declared interest of the Front Line states as stated by their leaders: growing investment in the area as an alternative to Western investments in South Africa and, therefore, as a means of reshaping the balance of forces in the region.

I recall that it is because there are so many Western interests in South Africa that there is still an extremely high level of Western connivance with apartheid.

And I recall that in President Samora Machel's opinion, solidarity was nothing other than joint action based on mutual interests. In his view, there was no such thing as "disinterested" solidarity among states, and that view corresponded to--and still corresponds to--the reality of what happens in the political area, we being so far removed from that wonderful utopia of classless societies. It was in the interest of the young Mozambican state to strengthen its sovereignty by supporting the Zimbabwean struggle for liberation, just as, today, it is in Zimbabwe's interest to see Mozambique remain independent and sovereign so that the specter of aggression will not come from Zimbabwe's eastern front. In short, and from that standpoint, there is nothing "inhumane" or "shameful" about the expression "strategic interest" because it involves the economic emancipation of millions of the poor.

But that expression has other connotations in the West: it is linked to the idea of domination, colonial and neocolonial, and its roots go so deep that from military and economic imperialism has come semantic imperialism. To get away from it on the level of ideas, it was necessary to come up with such expressions as "disinterested aid," as though it were possible to imagine man, a social being, without his class, group, and individual interests.

Putting it another way, if Sweden had any "strategic interests" or a conscious strategic program for southern Africa, perhaps some of its technology, which will find its way somehow into the hands of the South African military, would strengthen the defense of anyone being attacked in the region.

I therefore read the Swedish minister's answer as meaning that Sweden has no plans for dominating the region.

But let us get back to the interview.

Question: "What medium- and long-term future do you see for the SADCC? Is it your government's view that the SADCC can help reshape the world's economy in the direction of improvement during the early decades of the next century?"

Andersson: "We hope that the SADCC will continue to grow in importance, and we see no reason why that should not happen even after apartheid in South Africa is eliminated. The investments in infrastructure and cooperation in other areas will certainly bring benefits for the entire region."

Here a second "digression" is necessary. Unfortunately, there was no time then to explore the context of the above question. But let us do so now.

Let us view the future of southern Africa with as much optimism as the past 20 or so years of local political capability will allow. What do we see behind today's conflict, which is claiming thousands of lives and unleashing indescribable horrors?

Two factors stand out as real as stone: first, a political unity exists among the Front Line states that was built, day by day and sacrifice by sacrifice, by the struggles for liberation. It is a political unity based on the existence of common enemies: Portuguese colonialism, Ian Smith's minority government, and apartheid. Second, southern Africa is one of the world's richest regions in terms of natural resources.

To those two factors let us add a third: the SADCC. In 7 years, it has grown and buried P.W. Botha's constellation of states. It is now a factor for regional understanding: for economic and commercial cooperation in the region. It is now a factor for post-apartheid unity (if the reader wishes to consider these factors, let him remember President Chissano's proposed confederation with Zimbabwe--20 or 30 years down the road?--let him remember the degree of internationalism present in each liberation struggle in this zone, and let him consider whether it is too unrealistic to think that the phenomenon of nationhood in southern Africa is temporary--whether, 60 or 70 years from now,

we may not be on the verge of a sense of "southernhood" capable of supplanting nationhood in the narrow sense of that term.

Let us add a possible fourth factor: a post-apartheid South Africa that is more or less intact with respect to what it represents in the way of modern technology and an advanced urban economy, both capable of serving as a solid foundation for a patriotic government faithful to the interests of its people and faithful to the interests of growing regional cooperation.

The result? Southern Africa is the only Third-World area to have such a degree of real and potential unity. It is an area with a potential for peace that will endure decade after decade (after apartheid, no country in the area will be in a position to attack other countries in the region or have any interest in doing so). And look at what peace has done for countries such as Sweden. It has given that country a standard of living experienced only in the most daring dreams of entire past generations.

Those, then, are the factors leading men like Alan Garcia to back southern Africa, because they are the factors which can make southern Africa an extremely powerful ally in the complex struggle to achieve a new international economic order.

Let us get back to the interview.

Question: "Prime Minister Olof Palme had a personal relationship with several leaders in southern Africa. The new prime minister, Ingvar Carlsson, does not yet have such a relationship. Might this in some way affect Sweden's strong relations with the Front Line states and the SADCC? Or is it your opinion that that relationship did not depend on Olof Palme's strong personal relations in the region?"

Andersson: "I do not agree when you say that Prime Minister Ingvar Carlsson does not enjoy personal relations with leaders in southern Africa. Many of them have already been here and met with Ingvar Carlsson, and those contacts are continuing. Olof Palme helped build Sweden's relationship with southern Africa, but that was not merely a personal relationship. Those were relations which we can now continue to develop."

Question: "How do you analyze events in South Africa at this moment? Who do you feel really holds the reins of power in South Africa?"

Andersson: "We view the recent events in South Africa with profound concern. The state of emergency is being enforced unscrupulously. Many people have already been killed, imprisoned, or threatened because of their opposition to apartheid. The regime hopes that it will be able through censorship to convey the idea that opposition does not exist. We see no signs of willingness on the government's part to negotiate a solution. The security forces are continuing to receive ever-increasing resources."

The minister probably had his reasons for not giving a direct and unequivocal answer to the question of who holds the reins of power in South Africa.

Official Swedish sources told me that the prevailing opinion in government circles is that the real power is in the hands of Malan and the other South African military leaders. Naturally, that assessment has extremely important implications. The reason is that the political power held by the South African generals is based largely on the fact that they command armies of bandits in the region; it is based on destabilization, and if destabilization is defeated or at least seriously weakened, that will clear the way partly for the loss of a good deal of the political power those generals have. And that, in turn, will open the door for starting a process of negotiation in South Africa aimed at bringing down apartheid. So anyone examining the situation in southern Africa in that way must necessarily see the strengthening of the Front Line's defensive capability as a logical step. And as we will see later, Andersson leaves the door open to support for such a step, although not in terms of arms or ammunition.

Question: "The Front Line's cooperation in Mozambique has now reached the point that there are practical links in the military area. If it were asked to do so, would Sweden be willing to participate in the defense of Mozambique, even if it did not do so by supplying arms?"

Andersson: "Because of neutrality, Sweden cannot participate in the defense of Mozambique beyond the degree to which it already participates through its aid programs and our political support."

Question: "Mozambique currently occupies second place on the list of recipients of Swedish aid. What kind of future do you see for relations between the two countries?"

Andersson: "We hope that Mozambique will soon be in a position to develop its resources in peace. As long as aid is needed, we will provide it. For now, and this applies even more to the future, we feel that relations between the two countries can be developed in other areas. I am particularly satisfied that an event reflecting cultural cooperation between Sweden and Mozambique is taking place at the moment."

He was referring to a series of cultural events in Stockholm in connection with an exhibit of Mozambican art and a presentation of Mozambican reality. Participating in those events were Malangatana Valente and other Mozambicans.

Question: "In your government's opinion, what are the implications of President Samora Machel's death?"

Andersson: "President Samora Machel's death is a tragic loss not only to his country but also to the rest of the world. As in the case of Olof Palme, I am certain that what Samora Machel succeeded in building will serve as a foundation for the work done by those of us who survive them."

Those are the questions and answers in the interview according to the format that was sent from Maputo. The "live" interview was to have an interesting twist: at one point, the interviewee became the interviewer.

I began by recalling that in Oslo, from where I had come a few days before, it was being said that Sweden did not want to be part of a Nordic initiative for applying sanctions against South Africa.

"That is not true," Minister Andersson replied, and he outlined Sweden's position on the matter. "You know the Swedish position. Sweden is a neutral country, and our security depends on how steadfastly we comply with international law and demonstrate our solidarity with other peoples. Because of that, we have always said that we would participate in the campaign of sanctions (against Pretoria) only if there were a decision by the UN Security Council. It is for that same reason that we are able to resist pressure from the superpowers when they want us to apply sanctions, for example, against Nicaragua or Afghanistan. And it is for that same reason that we can criticize the superpowers when they take such steps independently of the UN Security Council. That is one reason why we want so much for the Security Council to make a decision. But another reason is this: if that campaign is to have any effect, more than just a few countries will have to participate. And I feel that this agrees with the position of the other Nordic countries."

As I said at the beginning, the interview took place on 16 February, a Monday. The UN Security Council was meeting that week to debate the question of compulsory sanctions against Pretoria. The inevitable question, therefore, was whether Sweden was prepared to give the Security Council a deadline after which it would unilaterally adopt tougher measures than partial boycotts.

"The Security Council will begin debating the question of sanctions tomorrow. I think there will be a proposal to adopt sanctions, not global but selective and compulsory. I believe that the United States and Great Britain will veto that resolution on Friday. After that, I hope, there will be a proposal concerning recommendations to the member states that they adopt measures with respect to their commercial ties with South Africa and in other fields. And then Sweden will put an end to all its trade with South Africa, including both imports and exports. Immediately. We have a special law permitting the government to make such a decision and not to inform Parliament until later."

The UN Security Council met, Great Britain and the United States vetoed the proposed sanctions, and there was no recommendation to the member states that they move ahead with sanctions. Friday arrived, and everything remained more or less as it had been. Or did it?

In the first week of March, the Social Democratic Party instructed the Swedish Government to take further steps against Pretoria regardless of what had happened at the Security Council, and that raises new questions.

But at that moment, as we were sitting in the Swedish minister's office, my mind was full of other things.

In December and January, regular troops and special units of the Mozambican Army had succeeded in foiling South Africa's attempt to capture Zambezia using the armed bandits. The situation was still--and is still--desperate for over 1.5 million displaced persons who are suffering from famine and every kind of

vicissitude. But a few roads had been reopened, and there was hope that genocide could be avoided in the north-central part of the country.

Zimbabwean troops were moving north, and Tanzanian Army units were coming south. Three armies were beginning to learn to fight together. I put the question to Minister Andersson: "Substantial military unity now exists among Front Line states as regards collective defense of the Front Line in Mozambique. And several countries in the Nonaligned Movement are providing support in various ways. If Mozambique or any other Front Line state asked Sweden for support in the form of nonlethal equipment such as radios, medicines, boots, and other things of that kind, would your country provide that support?"

Andersson answered without hesitation:

"Not if doing so would run counter to our principle of neutrality, but you are talking to me about nonlethal equipment--medicine and things of that kind and humanitarian support--and nothing more. That is a principle that we will always abide by. We were heavily involved in the Vietnam War, but we provided only humanitarian support (to the Vietnamese fighters)."

I persisted: "But this is a matter of equipment that can save lives--equipment that will be used in the military area."

"Of course," the minister replied. "That is good humanitarian support."

It seemed, then, that the door was open for Swedish involvement in that limited but important area of nonlethal support. I thought: "How many lives can a radio save in a village or factory?" The immediate future will show whether Sweden is prepared to raise its declared commitment against apartheid to the point of strengthening the Front Line's logistic capability.

Despite everything, I again raised the question of weapons: "Mr Minister, Sweden is one of the signatories to the declaration stating that apartheid is a crime against humanity. There is a strong feeling in southern Africa that the Front Line states are doing their duty of confronting apartheid directly. If South Africa pushes its Armed Forces into an open invasion of Mozambique or Zimbabwe, is it possible that Sweden would set aside that principle of not providing support in the form of arms?"

"No, never," Andersson replied. "We will always abide by that principle. I feel that we will be able to provide very effective support in other areas, but not by supplying arms."

I went back to a previous topic: that of demanding compensation from South Africa. The minister said:

"The armed bandits in Mozambique have already cost the Swedish taxpayers hundreds of millions of kronor, but I feel that South Africa is never going to pay us that money."

And he reiterated that so far, no Swedish political party had raised the issue.

I asked: "But don't you feel that such a demand would at least be useful as a means of putting political and psychological pressure on the South African Government?" The minister replied:

"Possibly, but I feel that what we must do is work as hard as we can to bring about a Security Council decision on sanctions. The question may be raised. I don't know. It would cost South Africa a lot of money, but we have not discussed the matter."

It is important to add here that the matter has indeed been brought up, not by a Swedish expert but by almost 1,000 representatives of nongovernmental organizations in Sweden during a meeting with Parliament shortly before Olof Palme's assassination. That meeting went by the name of "the people's parliament."

I was getting ready to bring the interview to an end, but Sten Andersson had decided to become the interviewer. "What is happening in Mozambique? Do you feel that you Mozambicans will be able to endure the situation?"

Something in the tone of his voice told me that there was a substrate of human concern, and I avoided the tendency to see the minister's question only as a stratagem aimed at getting more data so as to know which horse to back.

"Well, there is an entire complex of international support, since this is not a matter simply of defending Mozambique's integrity. Zimbabwe and Tanzania view the defense of Mozambique as their own defense." I recalled Tanzania's decision to come to Mozambique's assistance regardless of the economic difficulties being experienced by Tanzania, and I went on to develop a line of reasoning which I consider it logical to repeat here: "It seems obvious to me that if the three Mozambican railways--Nacala, Beira, and Maputo--begin operating properly, the next step will be to defend Zimbabwe. So I think that the three armies may someday have to defend Zimbabwe, especially its southern part. At the moment, South Africa is not destabilizing Zimbabwe as much as it is Mozambique because money is still coming in through Beitbridge. But the situation may change in the future if Mozambique's railways and ports return to full operation. And for now, the three armies are learning to fight together. It is not easy to put together a regional command, but there are many people in southern Africa who feel that just as South Africa created a powerful army in Angola--FAPLA--thanks to the years and years of resistance it imposed on the Angolans, so it is now creating a very strong counteroffensive power on its eastern and northeastern front. And the death of President Samora Machel was an eye opener for many people concerning how far South Africa may go in its attempt to destabilize some of Africa's most stable regimes."

"Do you feel that South Africa will punish the Front Line countries if the Security Council reaches a decision on sanctions?"

"Mr Minister, if you don't mind, I am going to be very down to earth. In our region, there is a somewhat cynical attitude toward this matter of people asking whether South Africa will retaliate if global sanctions are applied against it. It is South Africa which has been applying sanctions against the region, not the other way around. So the question is what kind of countersanctions should be applied to stop that monster which is destroying everything we are trying to build.

"You know about the invasion of Zambezia in September. That matter is gradually being resolved, but they may decide to try a direct attack on Maputo and may even try to remove the Mozambican Government physically.

"So when the governments here in West Europe and the United States constantly postpone a decision on global sanctions, when the Front Line in southern Africa is doing its duty to combat apartheid, when the Front Line countries have already lost thousands upon thousands of lives and billions of dollars, when we see that total foreign aid to the area amounts to about 10 percent of all the destruction and losses caused by South Africa, and when we remember that Mozambique lost \$560 million by applying the UN sanctions against Rhodesia and is still waiting to be paid by the international community--when we think of all that, it is logical that we should view this entire phenomenon of Western debate over sanctions as a kind of Ping-Pong. I don't know how serious that debate is. Everybody passes the buck to somebody else when it comes to taking the first big step. At least that is how many people in southern Africa see the entire debate."

The minister said: "That is why we say that the Nordic group must make a decision on increasing aid in the form of money and experts and that kind of aid while also trying to get a decision from the Security Council. And that is why Sweden has increased its aid to Mozambique for the building of infrastructure, for example. And we must also take into account the positive forces in South Africa and lead them to see that it is in their interest to reach a solution. But we don't have much time. So it is necessary to act.

"I am not surprised that you have already done so much: it is you who must play that role, and you have been doing so, but the Front Line leaders themselves must be very concerned about the situation that may result if South Africa steps up its destabilization activities. And I know that some of them are a little hesitant as to what they should propose to the Security Council."

"Yes, Mr Minister, but the key point for the Front Line, from what I have been able to see so far, is that it was the West which helped create apartheid."

"Yes," the minister agreed.

"Those same Western countries could therefore help dramatically in destroying apartheid by striking serious blows." (And also, I thought, if the ethics behind the statements of intention by those countries had anything in common with their political practice.)

"But," I continued, "what we see in West Europe is the ball being passed from one country to another, and then they wait for the United States, and so on. It seems that nobody really wants to make serious decisions. For example, there is talk of selective sanctions. But you know that some Western intelligence services know perfectly well where the South African generals have their money invested. Why not apply sanctions there?"

"I would state the matter this way: there is no doubt in southern Africa that apartheid will be beaten, but at what cost? And with how much destruction in South Africa itself? You know perfectly well that the Front Line does not want to destroy South Africa."

And Andersson agreed! "That is why we have insisted on a campaign of global sanctions against South Africa as quickly as possible."

"Yes, Mr Minister, but what has happened so far is that South Africa is the one applying sanctions. It does not seem to me, however, that the Front Line has lost hope that the world's leaders will assume their responsibilities and give substance to the phrase 'apartheid: crime against humanity' so that it will not continue to be an empty statement. It is obvious that the Front Line has no other option. There it is. It must fight. Either it fights or it capitulates; there is no other choice. It takes very seriously the saying that apartheid is the Nazism of our era and that as a result, it must be confronted by the world. But what we still see is tremendous hesitation."

Andersson interrupted me to say:

"I share your point of view. I have been involved in this tragedy since 1960--after the successive demonstrations in Sharpeville."

The minister paused briefly; there was a great deal of that generosity which unites men when they are confronted by horror. At least it seemed that way to me. And his final words held an emotional charge that is absent when a politician's posture is marked solely and exclusively by a cautious distancing of himself from human suffering. He said:

"I can assure you that you can count on Sweden. There is a limit, and I feel that the day is not far off when we are going to have to act. And we will."

Meanwhile, considering the very nature of the conflict and what we can learn from history for the present and future, it seems logical to say that the best way of ensuring that the international action in question will become an overwhelming tidal wave against apartheid is simply this: southern Africa must continue to use all its strength and all that unity which have already helped to eliminate the Portuguese colonial empire and the Rhodesian regime.

11798

CSO: 3442/132

INHAMBANE MILITARY COMMANDER DESCRIBES BANDIT ACTIVITIES

Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 24 Mar 87 p 3

[Report on interview with Major General Domingos Fondo, military commander of Inhambane Province, by Anselmo Tembe, on 20 March 1987; place not given]

[Text] Over 500 armed bandits have infiltrated Inhambane Province since last January to escape the resurgence of armed action by the Mozambique Armed Forces (FPLM) in the country's central provinces, namely Sofala, Manica, Zambezia, and Tete. The bandits who have taken refuge in southern Mozambique have been making armed raids on a few communal villages in the districts of Massinga, Homoine, Panda, Inharrime, and Zavala, where they have murdered defenseless inhabitants and stolen their property. Those facts were revealed to NOTICIAS last Friday by the military commander of Inhambane Province, Major General Domingos Fondo.

Gen Fondo also said that the group which infiltrated Inhambane Province across the Save River was carrying with it a sizable quantity of light equipment that it used to resupply the small groups of bandits already present in that part of the country.

According to our interviewee, the recent activity by armed bandits in Inhambane is a consequence of the increased number of battles being fought by the Mozambique Armed Forces/FPLM in the country's four central provinces. "They are looking for refuge in the south, just as they did when our forces captured the Sitatonga camp and other camps. The illusion that they can find a refuge in the three southern provinces will be destroyed, because we are not disposed to abandon any part of our province to the criminal activities of the armed bandits," the commander explained.

The politicomilitary situation in Inhambane Province was under control from 1984 until the end of last year thanks to the victories won in the field by the FAM [Mozambique Armed Forces] in cooperation with that province's party and government structures and its inhabitants.

Maj Gen Domingos Fondo said: "During that period, there was no activity by the armed bandits such as there had been during the 3 previous years. Our combative spirit made it possible to restore tranquillity to the province, and

many inhabitants who had been living with the criminals under compulsion were freed and their property recovered."

As a result of the increase in mopping-up operations and the physical extermination of bandits in Sofala, Manica, Zambezia, and Tete Provinces, the Pretoria regime's agents crossed the Save River last January in the direction of the country's three southern provinces. During that hasty crossing, many armed bandits were killed, and some were taken prisoner. Miscellaneous war materiel was also captured.

Maj Gen Fondo said during the interview that it was during those battles on the banks of the Save River that a number of captured bandits revealed that they were fleeing the country's central region "because the victories by the FAM/FPLM were increasing in number every day, and the situation was unbearable." Those same captured criminals also revealed the number of bandits infiltrating the province as well as the type of arms they had.

During the raids they carry out in Inhambane, the bandits have been focusing mainly on communal villages in the districts of Massinga, Homoine, Panda, Inharrime, and Zavala, where they murder and rob the inhabitants under cover of night.

No Camps in Province

During the interview with Maj Gen Domingos Fondo, we wanted to know whether the armed bandits had any camps in Inhambane. He answered us unhesitatingly:

"Given the combative spirit of the Armed Forces stationed in Inhambane Province, I assure you that the armed bandits have no fixed camps, only temporary ones. Our action in the field does not permit them to stay in the same place very long. They have chosen to form small groups which terrorize the defenseless inhabitants of a few villages in the province, their purpose being to find food."

The military commander of Inhambane Province also disclosed that the bandits have been choosing locations where there is water. It is in those locations, according to Maj Gen Domingos Fondo, that the FAM/FPLM have struck in their pursuit of the criminals.

When asked to comment on the possibility that the armed bandits now active in the province are being resupplied from abroad, Gen Fondo said that so far during the first quarter of 1987, no intrusions by sea or air have occurred. That fact bears out statements by some people that by the end of last year, the small groups of bandits active in the province were using only cutting weapons so as to save the small quantities of ammunition in their possession.

Domingos Fondo concluded by saying: "It was this group of over 500 bandits which resupplied its accomplices, and that explains why, in their current raids, they are using firearms as well as cutting weapons."

Victims Recount Atrocities

Our reporters also visited the Chiouque Rural Hospital, where a few victims of actions by the armed bandits in Inhambane Province are being treated.

In conversations with our reporters, they confirmed the facts presented to us by the provincial military commander, Maj Gen Domingos Fondo.

The victims said that after 1.5 years of calm and tranquillity in the province thanks to armed action by the Armed Forces, the bandits again infiltrated that part of the country, destroying villages and killing defenseless inhabitants.

Zacarias Jose Namburete, 19, who was a victim of the murderous fury of the bandits in the Mubula zone of the Morrumbene District, said the armed bandits had arrived in his village at around 0430 hours last 26 February.

"When the bandits arrived, some of them seized a few people while others stole food in the houses. I was sleeping at the time, and when they entered, they bayoneted me in the stomach and left me on the floor, thinking I was dead. After they left, I was able to crawl for help, and in fact, I was brought to the hospital, where I now feel a considerable improvement from the blows I received," said young Zacarias Namburete.

Another victim who talked to NOTICIAS was Horacio Fernando, 48, a peasant who lives in the village of Magumbane, also in the Morrumbene District. He said that a group of bandits "visited" his village at around 2100 hours on a date that he does not remember.

That citizen, who was stretched out on his bed as he spoke, was suffering from machete cuts in his skull and on one arm and had lost two fingers on one of his hands while trying to defend himself. The deep machete cuts could be seen on Horacio Fernando's head.

Ossumane Omar, 39, a merchant in the Manhica District of Maputo Province, said: "I was driving along with a relative when the car we were riding in was attacked in the Malaisse zone of the Jangamo District. It was our good luck that I was able to control the vehicle until we got past the ambush. But even so, my right leg is fractured, and my traveling companion took a bullet in the stomach. He is also in this hospital."

Ossumane Omar was traveling to the city of Maxixe from Inharrime, where he had attended the funeral of a relative. That attack occurred at about 1600 hours on the 6th of this month.

11798

CSO: 3442/126

FORMER BANDITS PLANT CROPS AT INHAMBANE REHAB CAMP

Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 28 Mar 87 p 3

[Text] The corn harvest began a few days ago in the center for the reintegration of former armed bandits in Chiunze, Inhambane, the product of the labor of those who for several years participated in the murder of defenseless citizens. Although the amounts of the present harvest have not been estimated, a certain optimism prevails regarding the results to be achieved. In the meantime, the population of the village of Chicomo is experiencing a serious food shortage as a result of the prolonged drought.

The center, which is the only one of its kind in Inhambane Province, currently lodges a population of 104 former armed bandits in addition to former fighters. The establishment of this center in 1984 is part of the policy of clemency decreed by our party and government for those who committed serious crimes against our independence.

After its establishment, the population was transferred to another zone because of the instability created by the bandits, returning to the center in July of last year. It was beginning at that time that the former armed bandits together with the former fighters prepared the conditions necessary for planting the corn that is being harvested.

According to Antonio Zefanias Cossa, who is in charge of the center's production, the former armed bandits prepared a 26-hectare area for this crop: 21 hectares were planted in corn, 3 in nhemba beans and "mapira," and 3 others in cotton.

According to our interviewee, the former armed bandits expect to prepare 30 hectares for the next season. A 9-hectare area has already been cleared for the planting of various crops that will contribute significantly to improving the diet of the reintegrated personnel.

Data supplied to NOTICIAS by the local organizations indicate that among the 104 former bandits, there are 26 women who also benefited from the clemency decree. It should be mentioned that 75 former bandits already live with their respective families.

"The party and government organizations created conditions for the former bandits to go to their home regions to bring their families. The majority of those reintegrated are natives of Inhambane, particularly the northern area of the province. Now they are enjoying all privileges, in addition to feeling free," stressed our source.

They Are Even Teachers...

The results of the benevolence of the Mozambican revolution are clear in this reintegration center because, in addition to enjoying the privileges that identify them as free citizens, some of the former armed bandits are even teachers.

At the present time, the center has some social infrastructures, noteworthy among them being a health station ministered to by a health agent of the provincial military command and a three-level literacy center entirely manned by former bandits. They also have a water impounding well built with the support of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), and more wells are expected to be built this year.

During their leisure time, the former bandits engage in cultural, recreational, and sports activities and conduct cultural exchange with other cells, including the district capital.

In addition to farm production, the center is also engaged in raising small livestock. "The greatest worry of the population of our center is related to the lack of clothing and soap," concluded our interviewee.

Hunger worries Population of Chicomo

Our reporters learned from the administrative organizations in the area that the food shortage situation in the village of Chicomo, in the district of Massinga, is tending to worsen.

That village is located 80 kilometers from the district capital and has an estimated population of 3,810 persons, most of them farmers.

For the present season, the local population had planted various crops, including corn, "mapira," and nhemba beans, but the lack of rains buried their hopes.

"The rains came in February but it has not rained any more since then, which jeopardized our hopes. Our farms were full of various crops but the drought destroyed them completely," lamented a farmer.

To alleviate this serious situation, the Provincial Department to Prevent and Combat Natural Disasters, in Inhambane, recently made available more than 61 tons of corn, which were distributed to the population.

Chicomo has five wells, three of which are damaged, thus increasing the difficulties of the population.

"The most frequent illnesses in this village have been diarrhea, scabies, measles, and undernourishment," said Alexandre Lacitela, the health aide on duty at the recently opened health station.

Our newspaper was also informed that the population of Chicomo is also struggling with a lack of implements of production, such as, hoes, axes, plows, and machetes.

8711

CSO: 3442/143

MOZAMBIQUE

OMM PROVINCIAL SECRETARY ON WOMEN'S ROLE IN WAR

Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 7 Apr 87 p [8]

[Text of interview with Cecilia Caiana, provincial secretary of the Organization of Mozambican Women in Nampula Province, by Salomao Moyana, in Nampula on the eve of Mozambican Women's Day]

[Text] Cecilia Caiana, provincial secretary of the OMM [Organization of Mozambican Women] in Nampula, said in an interview with the Mozambican news agency AIM that women are enlisted in the war against the armed bandits, as members of the vigilance groups and in the people's militias. Women are also giving moral and material support to the troops.

She added: "It is the woman in the town, the village, the hamlet, who prepares the food to supplement the rations of the soldier who is in place and in control." She is not only producing food for her own consumption, but also "to help meet the needs of those who are at the front."

The interview was granted on the eve of Mozambican Women's day and it should provide food for thought about the contribution of women in the general battle which the country is waging against armed banditry and hunger.

Question: Madam Secretary, what are the major fronts on which the women of Nampula are most actively engaged?

Answer: The women of Nampula are most actively engaged on two basic fronts: defense of the country and the production of material goods, according to the order of the day from the Fourth Conference, to produce for a war economy.

On the first front, the woman--principally the peasant women, because she experiences at first hand the atrocities of the armed banditry--is involved with the Popular Militia and the vigilance groups; she provides moral and material support to the soldier. She mobilizes her son, her brother, to take part in the defense of the country.

Organized by the local structures, it is the women in the towns, the villages and hamlets who prepare the food to supplement the rations of the soldiers who are in their positions and in control. There is a food shortage even here in the city of Nampula, but on 8 March the women took their few peanuts, their

bit of cassava, what few beans they had to the soldiers interned in the military hospital.

The youngsters also know that their happy homes depend on the elimination of the armed bandits, so they are anxious to answer their country's call to obligatory military service. Thus, throughout the province, there is a continuing demonstration of solidarity between the troops and the OMM.

The women are engaged in the production of material goods, as well as the actions to which we have referred. Families are now producing not only for their own consumption but also to help meet the needs of those who are at the front--the "Lions of the Jungle."

The OMM's maternity home is among the targets of the armed bandits, but the OMM has given priority to rebuilding this home. Side by side with the soldier and the railway worker, the women are rebuilding the rail lines, the roads and bridges so that the convoys can continue to transport merchandise.

Also with regard to production, the women in our province have small projects to vitalize the pottery centers in Mossuril and Mogincual districts and in the city of Nampula.

Most of the members of the dynamization groups in the green zones surrounding the city of Nampula are women. We have 9,335 women employed as salaried workers in agriculture, in services, in education, health and industry. So, to answer your question, I repeat that women are active on all fronts, particularly in defense and on the economic front.

Question: How many women are there in the province and how many belong to the OMM?

Answer: There are 1,435,000 women in Nampula Province, 32,333 of whom are members of our organization. Last year we began a new campaign to enlist members in the organization. Using that experience, we expect to recruit 10,500 women this year and annually in the future.

Question: What action has the OMM taken in Nampula to train its cadres?

Answer: The OMM has made and is making an effort to train its cadres. Here we must remember that, in colonial times, women were doubly exploited; they did not attend schools. Illiteracy was rampant among women. With the conquest of national independence, the picture began to change radically, as women flocked to the literacy and adult education centers. In Nampula Province, we are proud to say that we have 41,219 women who are now literate, 224 of whom are members of our organization. The adult education centers graduated 3,470 women, 144 of whom are members of the OMM. We have agreements for a training program with the Health Ministry, which has trained and is training women in traditional midwifery, first aid and as health activists, most of whom are OMM members.

Question: How is the OMM enlisting veterans of the struggle for national liberation in its work?

Answer: there are many women in the province who are combat veterans, primarily in Nacala-Porto, Malema, the city of Nampula and Monapo District, but there are many veterans in all the districts and cities of the province.

The characteristic shared by these women is their willingness to take part in the work of the organization, so it has been easy to enlist them. In all the locales, they are participating in the work of the organization, lending the experience which they accumulated throughout the years of sacrifice which they endured. For this reason, in terms of number, I would say there are many of them, and they are all prepared to make their contribution for the good of the organization. Here in the city, we have about 50 combat veterans at the level of the provincial secretariat, whom we contact constantly when we need to request a service or an opinion.

Question: Rites of initiation are a cultural phenomenon which is widely publicized in Nampula Province. What are the positive and negative aspects of these rites of passage?

Answer: Initiation rites are not a widely publicized cultural phenomenon; they are a widely practiced cultural phenomenon. The practice, as I said, is cultural and, as a way of creating a full awareness of it, the Extraordinary Conference of the OMM analyzed this phenomenon very carefully.

The young people also discussed it at length in their National Conference, because there are really positive and, naturally, negative aspects that the woman herself does not like. It is not easy to enumerate these aspects, but we can simply say that some negative aspects are those which obliged the woman to be no more than an instrument, those which have engrossed an already thick dictionary of taboos for females. To be a creature with no opinion in the family, in the home; to accept the exploitation passively; in short, to be held in what, in military parlance, is called a position of "passive defense"; these are negative aspects of the rites of passage.

As for the positive aspects, we note that, in this cultural practice, women are taught how they should fit into the society, how to be a social being; the young woman is prepared for her future home and perhaps for her future position as a mother, as an educator. We should remember that to eliminate these initiation rites without offering anything in their place creates problems, because the education of the peasant family is completed in the initiation rites.

The OMM's position with regard to the puberty rites is to keep the positive aspects and reject the negative ones. The process of social development will determine the future of the practice of initiation rites in the province and in the country.

Question: What have been the major problems for the OMM at the province level?

Answer: The OMM has had no specific problems in the province. There are just problems that we would all like to see resolved, but the possibilities are long-range possibilities. For example, we are anxious to acquire motor pumps

for our farm, but we know that these pumps are not produced in this country, so it will require foreign exchange, and to get foreign exchange, we must work, so we are engaged in production.

Question: What does the future hold for the OMM in Nampula?

Answer: To fight to eliminate the armed bandits, to build scientific socialism, happiness and peace. The future of the OMM in Nampula Province is the future of the OMM from Rovuma to Maputo.

6362

CSO: 3442/146

MOZAMBIQUE

HEALTH MINISTER ON CRISIS SITUATION IN NIASA

Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 10 Apr 87 p 8

[Report on interview with Health Minister Fernando Vaz, by NOTICIAS, in Maputo on 9 April 1987]

[Text] Fernando Vaz, Mozambique's health minister, said yesterday in Maputo that the action of the armed bandits in Niassa Province is provoking a great exodus of the population from their native areas, causing situations of lowered production and of famine. At the same time, the province is being isolated because the bandits are blocking off the access roads.

Minister Fernando Vaz spoke with NOTICIAS shortly after deplaning at the capital's airport, on his return from Niassa, where he had traveled to explain the measures contained in the Economic Recovery Program.

Vaz was accompanied on his trip by Daniel Gabriel, vice minister of trade.

"We observed that the province is experiencing a difficult situation; it is being strangled by the blockade of its access roads," the health minister said.

He added that this has seriously hampered the delivery of equipment, fuel, pesticides and other goods to the province.

Its primary supply route--the Nacala-Lichinga line--is virtually blockaded by the action of the armed bandits. This has meant a resort to other alternate routes, specifically the Mandimba-Lichinga road, which connects with Malawi.

Vaz said the destabilizing action of the armed bandits has caused a major population migration, "creating situations of lowered production and resulting famine."

He said the armed banditry in the province was most damaging to the agriculture sector, specifically with regard to business management.

In this regard, Vaz stressed the need to provide the province with capable cadres.

The health minister said the first measures provided in the Economic Recovery Program are already being implemented in Niassa, particularly measures to reactivate agriculture, the province's principal economic activity.

"Despite all the difficulties, the people of Niassa are still mobilized and hope to overcome this crisis with more support from the central level," Fernando Vaz said.

Niassa is among the provinces in our country considered to be in a state of emergency, because of the food shortage, and it is already receiving some international support, which it is hoped will be broadened, to alleviate the problems confronting the people because of the activities of the armed bandits.

6362

CSO: 3442/146

NIASSA GOVERNOR VISITS CUAMBA DISTRICT, ASSESSES NEEDS

Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 28 Mar 87 p 3

[Text] Niassa Governor Julio M'Chola recently completed a 3-day working visit to Cuamba District in the southern part of the province. The visit enabled the governor to familiarize himself with the organization and operation of the local leadership organs and the political and socio-economic situation of that southern region of Niassa.

For that reason, the Niassa executive contacted the district organizations, meeting with their officials, visiting various sectors of economic and social interest, and talking to thousands of people at popular rallies concerning the country's problems, especially those that affect the life of the district itself.

Cuamba district is located in the southern part of Niassa Province, 312 kilometers from Lichinga. With an area of 600 square kilometers and a population estimated at 73,000 inhabitants, Cuamba is located at an altitude of 600 meters and has a hot and dry climate, with temperatures reaching 40 degrees.

Cuamba District, which in the annals of its history has already had four names (Marcocotela, M'Cuapa, Nova Freixo and Amaramba), is essentially agricultural, producing cotton and sunflower on a large scale as cash crops and corn, "mapira," manioc, beans and sweet potatoes as consumer products.

Since the proclamation of national independence, 1984 marked the district's all-time record production, especially for the corn crop: more than 4,000 tons of this grain alone being marketed. The worst agricultural year since 1975 was 1986, when except for 20 tons of cotton, no other product was marketed and the shortages of farm consumer products reached indices never before recorded in the district.

In Cuamba, more than 2,500 persons liberated from the captivity of the armed bandits last year are living under very poor conditions in the village of Muitekere, constantly needing some kind of support.

The administrator of Cuamba said that this need will prevail to an appreciable degree until April-May of next year because of the conditions of scarcity in the district.

The commercial network is comprised of 36 commercial establishments, 12 hosteleries, 9 consumer cooperatives, 3 pastry shops, 3 millers, 2 butcher shops and bakeries, 1 barber shop, and 1 jewelry store.

The territory of Cuamba has been structured into 2 administrative posts, 3 villages with 18 communal hamlets, and 1 fourth-category city with an administrative post statute which has 8 residential districts.

This year, the school network is comprised of only 30 primary schools for a student population of 8,100 pupils, and 2 secondary schools for a population of 1,036 pupils, attending classes from the fifth to the ninth levels. This year, classes of the fifth level of the National Education System are being attended by 750 pupils at 14 schools, taught by 47 teachers.

In Cuamba District, 175 teachers have been assigned to the 30 primary schools, while there are 43 teachers for the 2 secondary schools.

In the framework of the Economic Rehabilitation Program, especially in the chapter pertaining to reduction of surplus manpower in companies and services, 238 workers from various sectors in Cuamba District were dismissed from their respective jobs and are presently being incorporated into agricultural production, in which each family must produce a minimum of 2 hectares: 1 hectare mandatorily planted in cotton, and the other in various products.

When the governor of Niassa met with the leaders of the district to assess his trip to that region of the province shortly before he concluded his visit, he said that the local leaders must become a determining force for the development of Cuamba, stressing that, in order to do so, organization and unity in the operation of all the organs and among the officials of the district were necessary.

After speaking about the enormous potential of the district, Governor d'Chola said also that completion of the dam project underway there will serve as the impetus for the development of Cuamba, especially in the industrial area and in the improvement of the district capital's water supply system.

In his speech, the governor of Niassa also indicated the need for all of the population of the district, including the citizens of the district capital, to become involved in agricultural production, increasing their cultivated areas because, as he emphasized: "Independence means having the material goods to do what we want."

At the rally that followed, the governor of Niassa told the population of the capital of Cuamba District that those who give weapons to the armed bandits are not friends of the development of Mozambique. "They want to see us begging for clothing, soap, oil, salt, and sugar," he said, appealing for unity in the fight against the terrorists.

At the rally, the people presented innumerable everyday problems to the governor, among them the lack of basic products, clothing, school materials, and medicine.

Responding in a general way, the governor of Niassa stressed that the solution to these problems lies in increasing production and productivity in all sectors of life and the total and complete liquidation of armed banditry in our country.

In a message presented at the same rally, the people of Cuamba District demanded the revelation of the causes of the Mbuzini tragedy in which the esteemed President Samora Machel lost his life on 19 October 1986. At the same time, the people expressed their profound shock at the premature death of the toiler of the Mozambican nation.

In a gesture of solidarity with the families of the victims of Mbuzini, the people of Cuamba presented Governor M'Chola a check in the amount of 200,000 meticals, in addition to the 705,000 meticals previously presented to the Party Provincial Committee by the same population for the same purpose.

8711

CSO: 3442/143

TETE GOVERNOR VISITS GREEN ZONES

Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 24 Mar 87 p 3

[Text] The governor of Tete Province, Cadmiel Muthemba, made a working visit to the provincial capital's green zones a few days ago to review the progress of agricultural activities being carried out there as part of the fight against hunger.

The governor of Tete Province, who made a leisurely tour of the family, cooperative, private, and state sectors in the Nhartanda Valley and the Degue neighborhood, noted that the lack of specific plans and of areas for immediate action has been the main obstacle to the production of cereals for the city.

On that occasion, Cadmiel Muthemba recommended to the organizations in the city of Tete's green zones that they work in coordination with the Executive Council to draw up plans that will include a list of everything needed to carry out those plans. He also criticized the methods used in building infrastructures that are not being fully utilized.

Cadmiel Muthemba said: "It is necessary to draw up a plan so as to know exactly what the structure's capacity is, what resources need to be used in its construction, and the areas to be covered."

Failure to make full use of the plots of land assigned to private and state farmers was another shortcoming noted by the governor of Tete Province, who recommended that the situation be investigated with a view to distributing the land to those who are actually willing to produce for the purpose of combating hunger in the city of Tete.

In his talk with the members of the cooperative sector, the governor listened attentively to the concerns set forth by the peasants, one example being the lack of irrigation water. According to what Cadmiel Muthemba was told, that situation is due to the reduced flow of the Zambezi River, the result being that the members of cooperatives are forced to dig wells to collect water with their motor pumps.

At the cooperatives in Nhartanda, the governor of Tete Province observed that most of the crops were withering due to the lack of rainfall, while sorghum

harvesting on farms in the family sector had started early because of a plague of small birds.

During his visits to the private and state sectors, Cadmiel Muthemba appealed to the farmers to devote themselves to cereal production by taking advantage of the land's potentialities.

It is emphasized that this was the first visit by the governor of Tete Province to the green zones and the private agricultural sector since he took office as provincial governor last February.

11798

CS0: 3442/126

GAZA GOVERNOR VISITS CHIBUTO DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL PROJECTS

Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 24 Mar 87 p 3

[Text] The governor of Gaza Province, Francisco Pateguana, learned recently that peasants in the the Chibuto District's family sector are being discriminated against in that the local government and private farmers possessing means of production are failing to give them support in irrigating their crops, assign them tractors for plowing, and distribute seed.

The governor of Gaza Province made that discovery during a 7-day visit he made to that part of the province with a view to familiarizing himself with and evaluating the district's socioeconomic potentialities.

Francisco Pateguana, who was accompanied by high-ranking cadres in the party and the provincial government, held people's meetings in the administrative center and various other localities of the Chibuto District to learn about the main problems being experienced in agricultural development and the fight against speculators and armed bandits.

During those meetings, Francisco Pateguana sharply criticized the district's party and government structures and particularly private farmers who received tractors and motor pumps in the last agricultural campaign but did not give peasants in the family sector the necessary support.

"You received means of production from the state and pledged to support the family sector, which is the basic foundation of the fight against hunger. We will no longer allow crops in the family sector to wither right next to a private farmer who has means of production and green crops," said Francisco Pateguana during the meeting he held with farmers in the Chibuto District.

On that occasion, the governor gave the district government important instructions for supervising agricultural development in the zone.

"All private farmers and agricultural cooperatives with means of production must submit lists of the number of peasants in the family sector they are supporting in their zones of influence," Francisco Pateguana ordered. He added that those lists will be the determining factor in deciding who gets those means of production in future campaigns.

At all the meetings presided over by Francisco Pateguana--those with the inhabitants and those with farmers and local merchants--he reaffirmed the objectives of the Economic Rehabilitation Program now underway in the country, explaining that that program involves the transformation of our strength into a production front and a change in attitudes toward work.

At the meeting in Chaimite, it was decided that farmers with state-owned means of production who do not make the necessary support available to the family sector will be penalized severely, with those penalties to range all the way up to withdrawal of the equipment.

It should be emphasized that Francisco Pateguana and the party and provincial government cadres accompanying him covered tens of kilometers in the fields being cultivated by the private, family, cooperative, and state sectors to observe the state of the crops, which are suffering the dramatic effects of the drought.

Francisco Pateguana concluded by saying, in response to dozens of peasants who were asking him for tractors in the Guemulane allotment in the Chibuto District: "Let us not stand around with our arms folded and cry about the drought that is devastating our crops while water is flowing in the rivers. We need to use our intelligence by opening up irrigation channels and relying on our own strength."

11798

CSO: 3442/126

NEW FISH PRICES SET FOR CABO DELGADO

Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 24 Mar 87 p 3

[Text] In the city of Pemba last Tuesday, the Provincial Fisheries Department of the Cabo Delgado Provincial Directorate of Industry and Energy announced new prices for buying and selling fish. Those prices, which are part of the Economic Rehabilitation Program, fall within the range of minimum and maximum prices for fish products that was set by the central government.

The new prices for buying and selling fish were approved at a meeting in Pemba last week. The participants included the fishermen in Pemba Bay, the neighborhood secretaries, and the enterprises involved in catching and marketing fish. At the same meeting, it was asked that effective measures be adopted for controlling fish sales and enforcing the new prices as a means of gradually reducing speculation and black marketeering.

Sales prices to the public will now be as follows: first-quality fish: 400 meticals per kilogram on the coast and 410 meticals in the interior; second-quality: 200 meticals (coast) and 210 meticals (interior); and third-quality: 150 meticals (coast) and 160 meticals (interior). For dried fish, the price per kilogram will be 1,200 meticals (split fish) and 600 kilograms (whole fish). The price will be 10 meticals higher in the interior. Octopus and squid will cost 250 meticals, while "ambare" and "ombe" will cost 350 meticals. Again, the price will be 10 meticals higher in the interior.

Producers' buying prices anywhere along the coast have been scaled as follows (per kilogram): first-quality: 300 meticals; second-quality: 150 meticals; and third-quality: 100 meticals. Dried fish will cost 900 meticals (split) and 450 meticals (whole). Imported horse mackerel will be sold to the public at a price of 206.50 meticals per kilogram. According to the Provincial Fisheries Department, sales margins will be 12 percent (wholesalers) and 19 percent (retailers).

Selling prices to the public and buying prices to the producer have not yet been established for lobster, crab, or shrimp. A department source says that until those prices are stipulated--and this should occur in the near future--the prices in question will be unregulated.

11798

CSO: 3442/126

MOZAMBIQUE

STUDY ON GRAIN SILOS FOR NACALA, MATOLA

Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 4 Apr 87 p 8

[Text] The Mozambican authorities have announced that the feasibility studies have been completed for the construction of silos with the capacity to store 10,000 tons of grains in the port city of Nacal in Nampula. The Dutch Government is expected to announce at any moment that it is prepared to finance the project, having stated such an intention almost 3 years ago, a source in the Food Sector reported.

Meanwhile, the feasibility study should be concluded by May on the project for construction of larger silos in the country, in the city of Matola, with a total storage capacity of 20,000 tons of grains.

The project would include enlarging the petroleum terminal and converting it into a grain terminal.

The FRG has already informed the Mozambican authorities of its intention to finance the project, but will not confirm this until May, pending the completion of the studies, which are now in the final stages.

With this financing obtained, the two projects will be of primary importance for the Program of Silos for Food Security at a time when, for want of food reserves, the government is in a struggle to aid more than 4.5 million Mozambicans in need of sustenance because of the armed bandits' destabilizing actions and the droughts which are still devastating vast regions of the country.

Preliminary estimates put the total cost of the projects at more than \$40 million.

Bearing in mind that, within the framework of the Geneva Conference on emergency aid to Mozambique, our country could come to receive a significant quantity of grains (the nation's needs are estimated at 700,000 tons), construction of the silos in the port cities of Nacala and Matola will represent a [much needed] improvement in the storage systems.

It will put the country in an excellent position to store grains to respond to emergency situations, which have arisen in the last 10 years as a result of the war and of the cyclical weather variations which have been unfavorable for agricultural production.

The Program of Silos for Food Security is also considering the construction of other silos in the Machava area, with a storage capacity of 15,000 tons, but the feasibility study for this project is behind schedule.

Initially, the Program of Silos for Food Security called for construction of storage with a total capacity of 60,000 tons of grains; to date, construction has been limited to only 15,000 tons of storage capacity, in Beira, financed by the Swiss Government.

The lack of funding for the projects continues to hold up construction and to delay the studies. However, at the time of the initial study which led to the construction of the Beira silos, three other countries (besides Switzerland) informed the Mozambican authorities that they were prepared to finance part of the program. The Dutch Government offered financing for the Nacala project, the FRG did the same for the Matola project and Japan offered to finance the Machava project.

At a time when, more than ever, Mozambique needs the storage capacity to hold the grain received through the international emergency aid program, which is still in progress, the Mozambican authorities hope to obtain financing for the projects and are waiting for the three countries to confirm their offer to finance them.

Almeida Matos, director of the UDRA (Unit for Direction of the Food Sector), told this newspaper yesterday that the Mozambican Government is primarily concerned with the Matola and Nacala projects, because of their strategic location.

He explained that the Nacala silos could hold grain to aid the northern provinces and for two of the SADC [Southern African Development Coordination Conference] countries (Malawi and Zambia), while the Matola silos would serve the southern region, with the advantage of being located near the nation's major grain processing unit, the Industrial Company of Matola.

Advantages of Matola Project

In addition to being the largest in the country, the silos in the Matola project will offer several advantages, primarily of an economic and financial nature, which, when all is said and done, is the area to which we should be giving major attention.

According to the studies, the existing grain terminal at the port of Matola can handle about 500 to 700 tons per day.

With this capacity, it would take about 22 days to unload a ship carrying 15,000 tons. Bearing in mind that each day spent by a ship in our ports costs us \$3,500, this means that, for 22 days, we would be spending \$77,000.

This is a large sum, considering our weak economy and our undeveloped capacity to earn foreign exchange.

The study which has already been concluded for the construction of the Matola silos (a project which would involve expanding the petroleum terminal and

converting it into a grain terminal) reveals that it would be possible to handle 200 tons per hour, or about 4,000 tons per day.

This means that the same ship, carrying its 15,000 tons of grain, would be unloaded in only 4 days (at most), at a cost to us of only \$14,000, as against the \$77,000 in the previous case.

For an underdeveloped country such as ours, with so many resources to be exploited, a savings of \$53 million represents ideal labor and management opportunities under the present conditions. This is only one example, not to mention other costs entailed today in the shipment of grains from the port of Maputo to Matola, what with the cost of fuel and freight car rentals, in short, the entire cost of transport operations and storage at the docks pending distribution of all the grain.

6362

CSO: 3442/146

BRIEFS

CHISSANO RECEIVES UNDP'S HEIN--Yesterday in Maputo, Joaquim Chissano, chairman of the FRELIMO Party and president of the People's Republic of Mozambique, received the UNDP (United Nations Development Program) representative in Mozambique, Arturo Hein, in the latter's capacity as coordinator of the emergency humanitarian aid program for our country. Hein was appointed coordinator by the UN secretary general, Javier Perez de Cuellar. During their meeting, President Joaquim Chissano expressed his gratitude to the under secretary general of the UNO, Abdulraim Farah, and Secretary General Perez de Cuellar for the prompt response by the United Nations to Mozambique's appeals. Chissano also expressed gratitude for the work already done. The Mozambican chief of state had previously sent Perez de Cuellar a message expressing those sentiments on behalf of Mozambique. During the meeting, Arturo Hein informed the president of the republic concerning preparations for the upcoming conference in Geneva that will be held on 31 March. At that conference, which has been called by Perez de Cuellar, many foreign organizations will indicate the type of support they can provide for Mozambique in coming months. Hein also said that the response by the various UN agencies to Perez de Cuellar's appeal has been good. [Text] [Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 24 Mar 87 p 1] 11798

LAGO CHIEF ON PRE AIMS--The head of the Lago District of Niassa, Marcos Buanamussa, recently explained to the people of the village of Meluluca the need and importance of paying the National Reconstruction Tax, especially at this stage of recovery of our economy. Speaking at a rally held there, the Lagos District chief also explained the importance of the Economic Rehabilitation Program for the life of the country and expressed his satisfaction with the work being done there in the area of defense, which is characterized by the massive, voluntary enlistment of youths to fulfill mandatory military service. Earlier, that official spent 2 days at the Lunho administrative station, where he worked in the settlements of Mechumua and Chuanga to familiarize himself with the work underway there in the framework of the struggle against the armed bandits and hunger. At a public meeting held shortly before concluding his visit, the first secretary of the Lago District Committee recommended to the local youth that they voluntarily enlist in the Mozambican Armed Forces/FPLM so that, in his words, we may quickly repel the armed bandits of South Africa and reestablish peace in our country. He ascertained that the results of the 1986-87 farm season in the two settlements will not be positive because of the lack of rain and the action of the armed

bandits, who murder farmers and defenseless people in the farms. For that reason, he recommended that the farmers of Chuanga and Mechumua utilize the low areas on the banks of the Lunho River and ordered the rehabilitation of the road linking Metangula to the headquarters of the Lunho administrative station to permit supplying the people with basic products. The Lago District chief visited those places to determine the level of compliance with the directives defined by him during an identical visit in 1986. [Text] [Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 28 Mar 87 p 3] 6711

MINING SECTOR DISCUSSED WITH GDR--The official discussions between the People's Republic of Mozambique[RPM] and the GDR regarding the mining sector, which were initiated Wednesday in Maputo, continued yesterday afternoon. The delegations of the two countries are led, respectively, by Joao Kachamila, Mozambican minister of mineral resources, and Bernhard Hildebrandt, GDR vice minister for coal and energy, who has been in our country since last week. The GDR delegation has already been in Tete Province, where it visited the Moatize coal mines and other sectors in this important branch of economic activity in our country. Yesterday morning, the GDR delegation visited the Geological Museum and the National Institute of Geology, headquartered in the capital. Hildebrandt and his party will continue their visit today with trips to various facilities in the sector and to other sites of historic interest in the RPM, including the gem-cutting complex and the Museum of the Revolution. [Text] [Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 3 Apr 87 p 8] 6362

CS0: 3442/146

STATISTICS REVEAL REASONS FOR POOR EDUCATION STANDARDS

Windhoek THE WINDHOEK ADVERTISER in English 9 Mar 8 p 3

[Article by Jean Sutherland]

[Text] More than 90% of teachers at Herero schools, 80% at Damara schools and 70% at National Education schools are unqualified.

These are among startling statistics on the state of education in Namibia to emerge in the last week.

In the National Assembly last week, Swapo-D's Immanuel Engombe said in Owambo there were 80 to 100 pupils per teacher.

Mr Engombe also told the House that in 1986 of the 10 000 Std 5 pupils who wrote examinations, only 3 000 passed.

The Swapo-D man maintained that persons studying for Std 8 were allowed to teach Std 10 students.

He pinpointed this as one of the reasons for the failure of so many matrics in Owambo.

Statistics on the percentage of qualified teachers were revealed by Administrator-General Louis Pienaar at the opening of the Coloured Legislative Assembly last week.

Praising the Coloured second tier authority for the standard of education offered in schools under its control, Mr Pienaar said that after white education, the Coloured education directorate had the highest number of qualified teachers, 39,4%.

"This can be compared to Damara education, 17,2%;

Herero education 6,3%; and even National Education, 25,1%.

"No wonder your standard of education attracts pupils from other population groups to your schools," Mr Pienaar said, adding that 35% of pupils at Coloured schools were from other groups.

The AG continued that what struck him was that the Coloured Administration allocated about R1 000 a child annually, R400 more than the R600 education subsidy they received from Central Government.

He also pointed out that National Education set aside R800 a pupil a year for students at its schools.

More than R15 million had been allocated for education by the Coloured authorities, Mr Pienaar said, and it required only a simple calculation to conclude that the representative authority was carrying the burden of other education authorities to the tune of more than R2m a year.

He believed that a "rectification" ought to be negotiable.

Further, the AG said, he believed there were other subsidy formulas which needed to be negotiable.

As far as education was concerned, allocations were calculated in terms of the Van Eeden formula to ensure equal treatment for all population groups.

But, he underlined, it was his view that equal treatment could not be strictly applied when there was a gap in standards between communities "because of political historical reasons".

"Formula must be adjusted to make provision for this," Mr Pienaar said.

He referred to "affirmative action" taken in the USA "whereby additional protection is afforded to ethnic communities which have suffered the consequences of discrimination in the past".

The AG suggested that the authorities concerned "should give serious thought to the feasibility, and legality of practising some form of affirmative action in order to breach the gap in standards between First and Third World communities."

POSSIBLE SUCCESSORS TO KOUNTCHE PROFILED

London AFRICA CONFIDENTIAL in English 18 Feb 87 pp 4, 5

[Text]

President **Seyni Kountché** again was admitted to hospital in Paris on 16 February, for treatment of an illness of the brain. Earlier, on 31 December, when the diplomatic corps was presenting its compliments, he suffered a heart attack and was rushed to Paris where he spent several days in hospital. These are only the latest and most serious of Kountché's health problems, coming at a time of exceptional international delicacy. Niger is situated in a turbulent region, bordering as it does **Chad, Libya, Nigeria** and **Burkina Faso** among others. In the recent past Niger has attracted the attention of Libya's Colonel **Moammar Gadaffi** as a potential participant in his dream of a league of Islamic states in the Sahel. As a consequence, the Nigerien authorities have been particularly sensitive to the activities of Touareg nomads entering the country from Libya.

In the current war in northern Chad, Niger serves as a passage for armies en route to the battlegrounds of the Tibesti, including both Libyan and **French** forces. French aircraft which parachuted arms and supplies to anti-Libyan forces in the Tibesti in December reportedly used the military airfield at Dirkou. Built during the French colonial period, Dirkou airfield was repaired by **United States** engineers in 1984. It is established that a French parachute unit passed through Nigerien territory to the Tibesti to prepare the reception of the December parachute drops.

The Chadian war and Kountché's ill health have raised serious questions on Niger's future. For France, which has interests in uranium mining in Niger amongst other things, Niger is not only a neighbour of the Chadian war but also the link between its west and central African former colonies, which remain zones of enormous French influence. Hence the seriousness with which France regards manoeuvres by Libya and **Nigeria**, which has many cultural and historical connections with Niger.

The succession to Kountché is now a matter of paramount importance, and even Kountché himself is keen to step down. The candidates are as follows:

- Colonel **Moumouni Djermakove Adamo**, member of the Supreme Military Council (CMS), former minister of foreign affairs, currently prefect of Zinder. His family holds the powerful Djerma chieftainship of Dosso. The name Djermakove means king of the Djerma in the Djerma-Songhay language. His family were leading collaborators with the French government during the colonial period and provided at least one officer in the colonial army. We believe that Djermakove visited Paris in January 1987 for talks with French officials while Kountché was lying in a hospital bed in another part of the city, although the Nigerian authorities decline to comment on this. Djermakove is probably the leading candidate, and is strongly pro-French.
- Col. **Amadou Seyni**, another member of the CMS, prefect of Maradi. He was an aide de camp of former President **Hamani Diori** and attended a military staff college in France. He is from a family of chiefs of middling importance.
- Lieutenant-Col. **Idrissa Harouna**, member of the CMS, currently ambassador to Bonn. He also was in Paris during Kountché's stay in hospital.

Some senior officers are former members of the military council, the CMS, which took power in April 1974 by overthrowing Diori. One by one they have been excluded from power, and those who really threatened Kountché are now dead or in prison. The CMS is only a shadow of its former self. Kountché is an autocrat who exercises power surrounded by his family and a few loyalists. One cousin, Army Chief of Staff Lt-Col. **Ali Seybou**, is an outside candidate for the presidency.

Whoever he is, Kountché and his French allies agree that the successor will be a military man and a Djerma. Above all, Kountché and the French authorities have a common interest in preventing power from falling into the hands of a Hausa since Djerma control is a precondition for the maintenance of French hegemony in Niger. The Djerma, representing 9% of Niger's 6,300,000 inhabitants, have dominated politics since independence in 1960. Out of seven prefects, the key regional administrators, only two are Hausa. Kountché makes great use of ethnic politics and does everything he can to exclude from politics the Hausa, who are 56% of the population. This anti-Hausa stance is based on fear of Nigeria and the wish to maintain the historic French-Djerma axis.

It was fear of the Hausa threat which brought about the elimination of former CMS number two Commandant **Sani Souma Saydou**. Of Djerma ancestry, but of Hausa language and culture, this officer had the double misfortune to be a close friend of Nigerian President **Murtala Muhammed**, who took power in Nigeria in 1975, and to be anti-French. He was arrested and murdered while in the custody of Lt-Col. **Bagnou Beydo**, prefect of Agadéz. Since this time nearly 90% of army officers have been Djerma.

For its part, Nigeria pays close attention to events in Niger. The construction by the Nigerien authorities of a military airfield at Diffa near Lake Chad aroused protests from Lagos, which demonstrates that Nigeria, although more discrete than France or Libya in its pronouncements, is sensitive to developments on its northern border.

Libyan influence grew steadily in the period after 1976 following an attempted coup by pro-Libyan elements. It was led by Cdt. **Bayéré Moussa**, a Hausa. Capt. **Sidi Mohamed** and trade unionist **Ahmed Mondour**, the other coup leaders, were both Touareg. The leaders of the attempted coup were shot, and there was an anti-Touareg purge which caused many Touareg to become hostile to the government. The Touareg form 7% of the population. Thus Gadaffi's imperial ambitions fuelled a domestic situation which was already explosive as a result of long-standing Touareg grievances, in Niger as in neighbouring Mali. The 1969-74 Sahelian drought made this worse, causing some Touareg to look towards Libya for deliverance. For all these reasons, the Touareg were receptive to Gadaffi's ambition of establishing a federation of Islamic states in the Sahel. Since then Niger has suffered numerous destabilisation attempts by Touareg groups trained in Libya.

THE FATE OF THE CMS

Former members of the *Supreme Military Council* (CMS) who took power with Kountché in April 1974 when he was army chief of staff, have all been removed from the centre of power. The following examples suffice:

Cdt. **Tanja**, ex-minister of the interior, now prefect of Tahoua.

Lt-Col. Bagnou Beydo, prefect of Agadéz.

Lt-Col. **Beydari**, retired from politics.

Boulama Manga, officer of the gendarmerie, imprisoned for insubordination in refusing to accept a government post. He is said to be paralysed.

Capt. **Cyril Gabriel**, principal organiser of the 1974 coup with Sani Saydou (assassinated). He is now in prison.

However, not all opponents of the Nigerien government based in Libya have the same motives. Some want the establishment of a Targui' state, while others want simply to unseat Kountché. Not all are admirers of Gadaffi. For example, a long-standing opponent of Kountché, the son of the former president, **Abdoulaye Diori**, broke with Gadaffi in April 1986 under pressure from Ivorian President **Félix Houphouët-Boigny**, an old friend of his father.

To appease the Touareg, Kountché has appointed a Targui prime minister, **Hamid Algabid**. A financial specialist, he is really no more than a prominent minister. He has little real power.

The Libyan threat to Niger has often been exaggerated so as to facilitate the task of the security forces. Libya, being embroiled in Chad, and whose resources are diminishing because of the fall in oil prices, no longer threatens Niger and no longer has the resources to match Gaddafi's inordinate ambition. France and its allies have the upper hand in the central Sahara. President Kountché, even when sick, is well in charge of things. His main allies are:

- His cousin Ali Seybou, chief of staff of the army.
- Cdr. **Toumba Boubacar**, minister of sports. His influence derives from his role in the defeat of the October 1985 coup attempt.
- Former Prime Minister **Oumarou Mamane**, president of the *National Development Council* (CND), an organisation created to prepare the return to a civilian government. The charter of the organisation postulates that civilian institutions will be adopted in 1987, but no one doubts where power really lies. More and more people in Niamey predict that Oumarou Mamane, a Hausa, will be replaced as head of the CND by his deputy **Garba Sidikou**, former mayor of Niamey and a former minister under Hamani Diori.
- Capt. **Moussa Hassan**, a presidential cousin who is head of the Presidential Guard, an elite force trained by Moroccan officers who are much in evidence in the palace.

The government's power-base, other than a thoroughly domesticated army, is the traditional chiefs whose families constitute a large proportion of the national elite, and the business community. The two are inter-linked. Among many western businessmen are **Ali Soumana** and **Moumini Salé**. The presidential family, which comes from the small chieftaincy of Fandou in the department of Filingué, is very active in business. Presidential wife Madame **Mintou Kountché** devotes herself to securing percentages of profits from small businesses. For many years she had in effect a personal monopoly in the import of indigo cloth woven in Mali, in cooperation with her Malian opposite number the ubiquitous Madame **Moussa Traoré** (AC Vol 27 No 22). But Mintou Kountché's businesses are small compared with those of the president's own brothers and cousins, notably in the export of cattle to Nigeria and other import-export businesses.

The Kountché clan has built two new towns in Filingué department, notably at Fandou, the president's home village, and Damana, where the father of the commander of the Presidential Guard still lives. These two places only 10 kilometres apart now contain numerous luxurious villas. The president himself is said to have interests in the export of *Benson and Hedges* cigarettes to Nigeria.

Years ago Kountché used to present himself as a champion of the fight against corruption. He even arrested his own brother **Moumini Kountché** as an example. After several months in detention Moumini was released, although his alleged accomplices still

remain in prison untried. Today Moumini Kountché is one of Niger's leading businessmen.

Nepotism and corruption were among the causes of the attempted coup of 6 October 1983. This attempt, which almost succeeded while Kountché was attending a Franco-African summit in France, was blamed on the former chief of the secret service, Lt 'Bonkano' Oumarou Amadou, who had a grudge after his earlier dismissal. In fact the real authors of the coup were young officers inspired by the radical examples of Flight-Lt. **Jerry Rawlings** in nearby **Ghana** and Capt. **Thomas Sankara** in Burkina Faso. Bonkano didn't join the conspiracy until six weeks before the coup attempt. Over 120 alleged plotters were arrested, although some fled abroad where they remain active opponents of the Kountché government ●

1. 'Targui' in the singular of 'Touareg' is the Tamasheq language.

/13104

CSO: 3400/85

AIR FORCE COMBAT READINESS REVIEWED

Enugu DAILY STAR in English 8 Apr 87 p 1

[Article by Arthur Ezenekwe]

[Text]

A WAY from public gaze and operating in remote areas to avoid undue panic and minimise accidents, the Nigeria Air Force, now several thousand persons strong, is training for war!

The vigorous and systematic training involves the use of the most modern jets and other sophisticated war machines in the NAF arsenal.

The NAF's only interdictor aircraft appears to be the British-built Jaguar, known to have attack range of about 1,300 kms, but the most popular in the world now seems to be the Panavia Tornado. Reports from the Farnborough '86 air show in Britain, say the Saudis have ordered 72 of the two Tornado variants.

The British Royal Air Force's current requirement of the Tornado is 394, the West Germans, 324 and the Italians 100.

Nigeria is still making do with the old reliable MIGs that proved their devastating capability during the Nigerian Civil War when the Soviets first introduced them here.

Most useful, too, in the current training is the French

Recoq helicopters and the Alpha jets, known to have an appreciable underwing weapons load capacity.

The American Hercules transporters are still tops in their class.

Our correspondent gathered that even though Nigeria Air Force scientists have not yet succeeded in modifying the various aircraft to any significant level, to differentiate them from the manufacturers' original fittings, substantial work is being done, locally, in repair and maintenance work, independent of foreign assistance.

But whom are we preparing to fight?

The training is a routine one intended to make the air force battle-ready when the need arises and to update the available equipment. So explained the Chief of Air Staff, Air Vice-Marshal Ibrahim Alfa, when the Daily Star interviewed him in his Defence Headquarters office in Lagos.

Training is the most important occupation of the air force in peace time", he

explained, adding: "we train in peace time for war, because when war breaks out, we will be so busy fighting, we won't have time for training".

The air force has also been used in air-freighting into the country, urgently needed drugs and medical equipment while it has also come to the service of the government in the transportation of personnel within and outside the country, where the civil airline had been found inadequate.

Emphasising the importance of the air force in modern warfare, Marshal Alfa said "it is one arm of a fighting force which can choose its own battle field and this can be right inside the enemy's territory".

The Nigeria Air Force will be unable to contain the "Bombs-of-April" type of air raid which the United States of America unleashed on poor Libya last year, Marshal Alfa admitted.

On the possibility of a South African air raid, Marshal Alfa said he did not think the apartheid regime would contemplate taking on Nigeria, although this does not mean this country should not be vigilant.

He explained that although the air force had the advantage of choosing its own battle field, "warfare does not stop with fighters and bombers alone but involves other support movements.

JNI CALLS FOR RELIGIOUS MONITORING MECHANISM

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 3 Apr 87 pp 1, 3

[Text]

THE Jama'atu Nasril Islam (JNI) has said that rather than introducing "panic measures" to check religious activities, government should create an avenue for monitoring all the religious activities with the co-operation of all the religious organisations in the country.

The JNI warned that government "panic decisions" of banning religious organisations in schools and open preaching in the media "will not work as solutions because this will make religious activities go underground and this is very dangerous to any nation."

In a memorandum dated March 26, it sent to the investigation committee on the recent religious disturbance in some parts of Kaduna State, the JNI expressed the belief that a permanent solution to religious disturbances could be found "only if Nigerians of different religious persuasions recognise the multi-religious nature of Nigeria and allow each other to have fundamental rights in accordance with its religious injunctions and the constitution."

The organisation said both federal and state governments

had an important role to play in achieving permanent solution to religious disturbances, by allowing religious freedom according to the constitution but with close monitoring.

On the immediate causes of the disturbances, the JNI attributed it to the staging of "Mission '87" which it said was "provocative" from the very beginning by the Fellowship of Christian Students of the Kafanchan College of Education and their supporters from outside, adding that the manner in which the "Mission '87" was staged was meant to be offensive to Islam and muslims.

The JNI said it was the news of killing of the muslims and destruction of mosques and property in Kafanchan through the media and eye-witnesses among the muslim students who managed to escape being killed by the christians that spread and prompted spontaneous and violent reactions by muslims in other parts of Kaduna State.

The JNI noted that though the remote causes of the disturbance were many, it had identified inherited colonial set-up, hostile and open objection to anything Islam by christians, misunderstanding of Islam and lack of acceptance of muslims by christians as the causes of the distur-

bance.

The JNI said "if the "Mission '87" had not taken place leading to killing and destruction of property in Kafanchan, there would not have been any reactions in other parts of Kaduna State," adding that "this is a crucial point which should be considered carefully by the government."

It advised the investigation committee that it was important that events in other parts of Kaduna State must not be isolated from, but should be read in conjunction with, the events of Kafanchan.

The JNI appealed to government to give religion its rightful place in the scheme of things in our national life and advised Christians to stop objecting to the Muslims getting their fundamental rights in accordance with the demand of their religion.

It also appealed to federal and state governments to establish avenues for various religious followings to get together and deliberate on issues of mutual interest and thereby co-ordinate religious activities.

The JNI expressed the hope that the two bodies set up to deal with the disturbances would do a "good and thorough job" which should not be allowed to waste by the government.

/9274

CSO: 3400/598

NNPC EMBARKS ON NEW ESCRAVOS RIVER PIPELINE

Lagos BUSINESS TIMES in English 30 Mar 87 p 1

[Article by Ndu Ughamadu]

[Text]

THE Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) has completed an arrangement to lay a second crude oil pipeline across the Escravos River.

The managing director of the corporation, Mr. Godwin Aret Adams, told the Business Times last week that this was sequel to a crack that occurred in the main Escravos pipeline that supplies crude oil to the Kaduna Refinery adding that the pipeline was undergoing repairs.

The cracked Escravos pipeline known as 'System 2C' runs from Escravos through Warri, Abudu, Auchi, Lokoja, Abaji, Isasa, Sarkin Pawa and terminates at Kaduna Refinery. The length is about 606 kilometres.

Mr. Adams who did not

state how much the new pipeline would cost said that this would take about three weeks to complete. Meanwhile, the corporation had taken an interim measure geared toward supplying crude oil to the refinery pending the completion of work at the Escravos.

Under this, it would make use of shell quality testret centre at Ughelli, Bendel State, to transport crude oil to Warri for onward distribution to the Kaduna Refinery.

The Ughelli quality control is a joint venture project between shell and the Federal Government with the latter having 80 per cent equity participation.

It is made up of many tanks from where crude oil from Shell/NNPC Western oil wells is stored between 24 and 48 hours.

This arrangement whereby crude is transported from Ughelli to Warri Mr. Adams noted, was the first time the corporation was embarking on such, stressing that this was the only feasible

alternative to keep the Kaduna Refinery in operation.

The Refinery is designed to use two types of crudes: Gulf oil crude from Escravos (local) and paraffin-base crude oil imported from Venezuela. Both crudes (local and foreign) are transported to the refinery through the Escravos pipeline.

Initially, the refinery had a capacity of 100,000 barrels of crude oil but was recently increased to 110,000 barrels. And 50 per cent of the crude is expected from Venezuela under an exchange programme.

Mr. Adams further told the Business Times that the volume meant for the exchange has fallen from about 50,000 barrels a day to 30,000 barrels attributing the reason to OPEC's general cut back in production.

The corporation, the managing director added, pays the Federal Government through the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) \$20.58 for each barrel of

crude it exports to Venezuela.

Based on 50,000 barrels a day of Nigerian crude and 50,000 barrels of Venezuelan crude, the Kaduna Refinery was expected to manufacture per year about 4,104,380 tons of petroleum products among others.

Commenting on the products, the managing director said that the corporation was finding it difficult selling the 'asphalt' adding "There has always been a low lifting".

PRODUCTS	TONS
LPG	10,000
Gasoline	1,211,000
Kerosene	614,000
Gas Oil	888,000
Fuel Oil	415,000
Lubricating Oil	250,000
Wax	24,000
Asphalt	690,000
Sulphur	2,300
TOTAL:	4,104,380

BRIEFS

BAUCHI AIRSTRIP REOPENING.--The Bauchi air strip which has been renovated at an estimated cost of about 1.5 million Naira is expected to open for commercial flights on April 21. A private airline, Jambo Airlines, has agreed to start commercial operations from the state capital to other parts of the country. Permanent Secretary in the state Ministry of Information and Culture, Alhaji Muhammad Mu'di Abdullahi, said the state governor, Colonel Chris Garba would officially launch the maiden flight. According to a statement by the permanent secretary, with effect from that date there would be daily flights from Bauchi to Kaduna, Abuja and Lagos and from Lagos to Bauchi through Abuja and Kaduna. Departure schedules, he said, would be announced. [Text] [Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 6 Apr 87 p 24] [Article by Waziri Garba] /9274

ORE PLANT CONSTRUCTION.--Work has now begun on the beneficiation plant at the Associated Ores Mining Company in Itakpe, Kwara State. It is being handled by KOCH, a French contracting company. This followed the finalisation of a mixed countertrade and export financing package in January over the execution of the project. The project is put at \$250 million (N1 billion). [Excerpt] [Article by Raheem Mohammed] [Lagos DAILY TIMES in English 3 Apr 87 p 24] /9274

CSO: 3400/604

BRIEFS

SOCIALISTS URGE LEFT-WING UNION--Reunion's socialists urged union with the local communist party when they held their federal congress at Saint Benoit on March 22 and called for the maximum number of alliances in the field. They said that leftist forces should unite to regain the ground that was lost in 1986 when the Socialist Party's national assembly deputy Wilfrid Bertile was defeated in the general elections. [Text] [Paris THE INDIAN OCEAN NEWSLETTER in English 28 Mar 87 p 7] /9317

INTERNAL CRISIS IN RPR--The Reunion federation of the Rassemblement pour la Republique, French prime minister Jacques Chirac's party, is in the throes of a serious internal crisis. There is increasingly overt criticism of deputy Michel Debre's management which resulted last week in the exclusion of two local councillors and an ideologist of the party. In a laconic statement published in the press, the RPR said the three "had excluded themselves by their behaviour." Those expelled include Cassam Moussa, the recently elected mayor of Saint Paul, who refused to accept the official RPR candidate for this post after the death of Paul Benard (see ION No 270). Another is Pierre Rovithis, an actively militant councillor from the western part of the island, who had a hand in setting up a new local political group, the Association des Jeunes Elus Departementalistes. This new organisation has a majority of councillors from the centrist Union pour la Defense de la Republique, the RPR's junior partner in the French coalition government, as well as a few from the RPR. Its first objective is to seal the rift between the dissident UDF regional council chairman Pierre Lagourgue and the UDF's deputy for Reunion, Jean-Paul Virapoulle, who is very close to Mr Chirac. [Text] [Paris THE INDIAN OCEAN NEWSLETTER in English 4 Apr 87 p 5] /9317

CSO: 3400/678

HOME AFFAIRS MINISTRY CONCERNED OVER KENYAN REPATRIATIONS

Reports of Harassment

Dar es Salaam TANZANIA DAILY NEWS in English 28 Mar 87 p 1

[Article by Halima Shariff]

[Text]

THE Ministry of Home Affairs, will regard as contravention of the agreed spirit of good neighbourliness the recent repatriation of Tanzanians from Kenya if some of them had valid residential permits as is being claimed by some victims.

The Ministry has also said it is contrary to the principles of good neighbourliness if reports on harassment of Tanzanians by Kenyan authorities were true.

The Minister for Home Affairs, Ndugu Muhiddin Kimario, told reporters in Da es Salaam yesterday: "If these reports or complaints made by Tanzanians are true, then it was not a good thing."

Ndugu Kimario was reacting to claims by 67 Tanzanians who were recently expelled from Kenya's Coast Province that they were rounded up and taken to the border leaving behind their families and property. Some claimed to have valid documents.

Although Tanzania did not interfere with any country's internal affairs, the Minister said, it was only proper, as per the agreed areas of co-operation between the two countries, that respective government institutions communicate and co-operate.

"This is what we have been emphasising in our joint meetings in Tanga last November.... in Mombasa in 1984 and in several other forums. In such situations we should inform each other and give time to repatriated citizens to collect their belongings or families," the Minister explained.

But, he pointed out, there had been no communication between the governments since Kenya began cracking down on foreigners living illegally in the country.

Ndugu Kimario could not give the total number of Tanzanians who have been netted in the operation so far. Some of those repatriated have been living in

Kenya for periods ranging from two to 15 years.

The 67 have already joined their relatives or families in the country, the Minister said, adding that the Government did not face any problem of resettling them.

The Government was currently verifying documents of the repatriated citizens and would later take step to trace properties and families as claimed, Ndugu Kimario added.

Stressing the need to enhance co-operation between the two countries to enable the people live comfortably, the Minister observed: "If there was any problem then there were ways to solve it... but harassment is what we detest."

Tanzania, he added, had always been requesting its neighbours to handle its citizens in a humane manner in the case of repatriation because "this is normally what we (Government) do to others," he emphasised.

Mishandling of Aliens Admitted

Dar es Salaam TANZANIA DAILY NEWS in English 31 Mar 87 p 1

[Article by Halima Shariff]

[Text]

THE Kenyan Government has admitted that the on-going crackdown on aliens living illegally in Kenya has been poorly implemented — an act which has embarrassed it.

The Permanent Secretary in the President's Office, Mr. Ezekiel Oyugi, made the admission in Nairobi yesterday during talks with the Acting Tanzania High Commissioner in Kenya, Ndugu Scif Iddi.

Ndugu Iddi later told the *Daily News* over the telephone from Nairobi that the Permanent Secretary had admitted that the presidential directive was improperly implemented. He pledged his Government's strict follow-up in future.

Ndugu Iddi had complained over harassment of Tanzanians and detention of children during the exercise.

Ndugu Iddi also told Mr. Oyugi of claims that Tanzanians living at border posts were also rounded up when they crossed the border to buy commodities. Those netted were ferried to Nairobi while those rounded up in Mombasa were driven in lorries to Lungalunga and Taveta border posts.

Mr. Oyugi, according to Ndugu Iddi, maintained that the implementors (police) did not abide by the directive which required them to list down names of foreigners without

valid residential permits and send them (lists) to respective embassies or high commissioners and the President's Office.

Ndugu Iddi said: "The Permanent Secretary admitted that there was a flaw in the implementation of the exercise and that this was contrary to our countries' agreements in the enhancement of good neighbourliness."

The Permanent Secretary, Ndugu Iddi said, had asked the High Commissioner to register abnormalities or complaints it received to the President's Office as the operation continued.

Meanwhile, Kenyan President Daniel arap Moi has asked the police to refrain from harassing aliens and respect their (foreigners) property.

Addressing a mass rally at the Asumbi Education Institute in Kisii west of Kenya, at the weekend, President Moi warned the police against corruption while conducting the operation.

Earlier, Inspector General of Police Bernard Njiru asked all those who had been harassed by police during the crackdown to report to police stations so that legal measures could be taken against the culprits.

The crackdown began two weeks ago.

/9317

CSO: 3400/685

PARTY NATIONAL CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN OCTOBER

Dar es Salaam TANZANIA DAILY NEWS in English 13 Feb 87 p 1

[Article by William Tungaraza]

[Text] THE Party National Electoral Conference is expected to be held in Dodoma between October 16 and October 31, this year, the Party Headquarters announced here yesterday.

The Conference will elect the Party Chairman, the Vice-Chairman and members of the Party National Executive Committee (NEC) on a date to be announced later.

An electoral calendar released here yesterday by the Organisation Department of the NEC Secretariat said district conferences will be held between July 16 and July 31, while regional conferences will be held between September 25 and September 30.

The calendar shows that district political committees will scrutinise aspirants and send their recommendations to the regional political committees, which are detailed to meet for two days starting June 23.

The regional political committees will scrutinise aspirants for regional executive committee membership, regional chairmanship and NEC membership. The committees will meet between June 25 and June 30.

Between July 16 and July 31, district electoral conferences will elect district Party leaders. The Central Committee of NEC will meet between July 21 and July 30 to scrutinise aspirants for regional chairmanship and NEC membership (national list).

For two days starting August

17, regional executive committees will pick candidates for regional executive committee membership. Between August 23 and August 26, NEC will meet and name candidates for regional chairmanship and NEC membership.

According to the calendar, between September 25 and 30, regional conferences will elect regional leaders.

NEC is scheduled to meet between October 5 and 10 to consider and propose a prospective candidate for the Party Chairmanship and another candidate for the Party Vice-Chairmanship.

Nomination papers for Party branch posts started being given to aspirants starting January 1. They will be handed in to the Party branch secretaries (the returning officers) between March 1 and 5.

At the district level, forms will be collected by aspirants starting March 1 and will be handed in to district secretaries between April 1 and 5.

Aspirants for regional posts will start collecting forms on March 1 and the forms will be handed in between June 1 and 5 (for regional executive committee membership and regional chairmanship).

Aspirants for national posts will start collecting nomination forms starting March 1 and hand in the papers between June 1 and 5, to regional Party secretaries.

TRADE MINISTRY OFFICIAL EXPLAINS ECONOMIC DECLINE

Dar es Salaam TANZANIA DAILY NEWS in English 20 Mar 87 p 1

[Text]

THE adverse economic situation in the country has badly affected the trade sector, the Principal Secretary in the Ministry of Trade and Industries, Ndugu Felician Mujuni, told the Arusha Declaration symposium in Dar es Salaam yesterday.

Presenting a paper on the performance of the trade sector over the last 20 years, Ndugu Mujuni told participants at the symposium that there had been a steady increase of deficit in the balance of trade since 1978.

While exports totalled 3 670.6m/- in that year, imports added up to 8,797.7m/-, the Principal Secretary said. As the number of public institutions in trade grew to serve the majority, the country's foreign trade continued to drop, he pointed out.

Ndugu Mujuni said the situation was worse now as the production of cash crops for export was falling, and prices at the world market had been low.

He stressed that during the 20 years of the Arusha Declaration, the public sector had been consolidated to serve the people up to village level. Companies under the Board of Internal Trade (BIT) had made a net profit of 958.5m/- between 1973 and 1983.

The BIT companies invested 167.6m/- in other public and private companies in the industry, trade, agriculture and

transport sectors.

In spite of this achievement the implementation of the ideals of the Arusha Declaration was affected by Production problems in the transport sector.

Lack of investment capital, skilled labour, delay of decision making, implementation and prices were other causes of slow implementation of the declaration in the trade sector.

The Ministry of Trade and Industry intended to strengthen internal trade by improving regional trading companies, cooperatives, inter-regional trade and other state institutions during the three-year economic recovery programme, said the Principal Secretary.

The institutions would be helped to solve their problems of foreign exchange, transport and investment. The ministry would also offer incentives to traditional and non-traditional crop exporters to increase exports.

The major emphasis in future would be on setting up collective arrangement procedures, guidelines and strategies for the formulation of a national trade policy, Ndugu Mujuni said.

However, he insisted that more important was increased crop production to raise the level of the foreign exchange reserves so that the country got surplus in the balance of trade instead of deficit.

/13104

CSO: 3400/625

ZANZIBAR PREPARING THREE-YEAR ECONOMIC RECOVERY PLAN

Dar es Salaam TANZANIA SUNDAY NEWS in English 22 Mar 87 p 1

[Article by Abdallah Yakuti]

[Text] THE Zanzibar Revolutionary Government is in the process of drawing a three-year Economic Recovery Programme (1987/90) in a bid to set Zanzibar's economy back on the growing path.

Similarly, a new five-year development plan for Zanzibar is also in the pipeline, according to the Isles Permanent Planning Commission Executive Secretary, Ndugu Mohamed Dedes.

He said nine British economic experts will come to Zanzibar next month to help local experts draw up the recovery plan, to be operational later this year.

The recovery programme will cover similar perimeters as those included in the Tanzania Economic Recovery Programme but with special thrust on Zanzibar's development problems, Ndugu Dedes explained.

He said the recovery programme and the five-year development plan were both aimed at increasing production of food and export crops, optimum industrial capacity utilisation and to restore balance to the budget finances and balance of payments on current account.

To begin with, experts would be required to construct a simple economic reform model basing on the general economic

situation before suggesting policy option, bearing in mind the resource constraints on Zanzibar.

Zanzibar has pulled out of the unified Second Five Year Development Plan in order to concentrate on Isles economy.

The unified plan was the second, of the four-five-year development plans spanning from 1981 to the year 2000.

Announcing the withdrawal in May last year, the Minister of State in the Chief Minister's Office, Ndugu Said Bakari Jechu, said: "Due to problems which have cropped up and affected our economy, we find it unwise to embark on second plan without first creating the base sufficient to benefit from the comparative advantages of unified development policies."

On the recovery plan, the planning commission chief said here at the weekend that there were evident signs of stability on Zanzibar's economy in the last two years, but insisted that real growth was yet to begin.

He said the Government planned a thorough appraisal of price and marketing structures for improved farm output.

The performance of the Isles public parastatals, including their investments and work policies, are also to be reviewed to facilitate productivity increase in industrial sector.

/13104

CSO: 3400/625

NATURAL RESOURCES ABOUND TO BUILD SOCIALIST SOCIETY

Dar es Salaam TANZANIA DAILY NEWS in English 23 Mar 87 p 1

[Text]

WHAT we can learn from the just ended Party organised symposium to assess implementation of the twenty-year old Arusha Declaration is that despite the prevailing socio-economic problems, resources abound in Tanzania to build a truly socialist and egalitarian society.

The country boasts of enormous natural resources in practically every form whose exploitation unfortunately remains to be fully realised mainly because we have not taken the necessary steps to tap the abundant wealth for the benefit of the nation.

Right from the word go, we have categorically stated that the development of this country essentially depends on agriculture, which frankly speaking continues to occupy a central position in the economy.

Considering this basic truth, what do we as a nation really have to say about the attention we have accorded to the sec-

tor since attainment of our independence nearly 28 years ago?

It is obvious that much has not been done to tap the available resources with a view to meeting out ever growing needs.

The Arusha Declaration has clearly spelt out the role of the Party and the nation as a whole on what steps are supposed to be taken at all levels to ensure our desired goals are achieved within the framework of the principles of Socialism and Self-Reliance.

What all of us are expected to do is to seriously get down to serious business and faithfully translate our clear socialist policies into concrete action, fully conscious of the burning desire and determination to rid the people of the current economic hardships.

This cannot effectively be done if the people are not fully mobilised and involved in efforts that are deliberately aimed at creating a society that

honestly appreciates and benefits from the fruits of our declared policies of Ujamaa and Self-Reliance.

The Government and all public institutions are duty-bound to play a frontline role in the protracted struggle to spearhead the socialist revolution the nation is embarked upon.

We are very optimistic that the spirit of frankness and serious evaluation of issues that prevailed throughout the six-day symposium will help to inject and stimulate the sense of seriousness and determination among the people, paving the way for orderly and judicious execution of the challenging tasks ahead.

The struggle to build the nation along the nationally agreed socialist lines is ours all. Its success very much depends on how best we are ready and prepared to play our part as required.

We must utilise all local resources and initiatives to build socialism in the country.

COOPERATIVE PRODUCTION SEEN AS SOLUTION TO POVERTY

Dar es Salaam TANZANIA DAILY NEWS in English 25 Mar 87 p 1

[Text]

THE solution to loitering, unemployment and poverty lies in scientifically organised co-operative production in the farming sector.

This was the only solution to the persistent rounding up of loiterers and the implementation of the human resources deployment exercise, the Minister for Local Government and Co-operative Development, Ndugu Kingunge Ngombale-Mwiru, said over the weekend.

Ndugu Ngombale-Mwiru, who is also the Head of the Ideological, Political Education and Training Department of the Party National Executive Committee (NEC) Secretariat, underscored the point on Saturday when presenting a paper on co-operative production and Ujamaa construction at the Arusha Declaration symposium at the Kivukoni Party Ideological College in Dar es Salaam.

"If we want to solve our economic problems, then all effort must be directed at the small farmers who must be coaxed, mobilised, organised and taught scientific production. If they make revolutionary changes, they will liberate this country," he said.

Such a move, he told the 139 participants from Party, Government and parastatals that was

largely ignored in the past 20 years of the Arusha Declaration.

However, he said, this was going to change giving due emphasis on "the sleeping giants who must be awakened".

The Government would establish tractor service centres in the regions which will service tractors and train members of primary co-operative societies on the best utilisation of machinery and inputs. The centres would be run by co-operative unions, he explained.

Initial centres were being set up in Arusha, Lindi and Ruvuma.

Every district will choose between 10 and 15 villages which will get support from the Party and Government in co-operative production. Already, 15 secretaries from best villages were in Bulgaria for a five-month course on Ujamaa production.

Ndugu Ngombale-Mwiru said the 1985 CCM Guidelines made it clear that the nucleus of co-operative development was the village and that a strategy be prepared to translate this into reality but little effort was made.

He said it was necessary for villages to have committed CCM members who will be provided with a resident co-operative expert and that co-operative production be tailored according to environments.

State instruments such as financial institutions must also be placed close to the villagers.

He said although many problems cropped up during villagisation, the move was a success because very few countries could boast of placing its population in organised villages.

The failure of the villages was due to people who did not want co-operative production. They hijacked leadership and brought development to a halt.

As a result of villagisation, Tanzania managed to enroll into schools 3.7 million children and made 85 per cent of the adult population literate.

Water services had reached some 8.5 million of the 22 million Tanzanians and several other social amenities which could have not reached isolated people were now being availed more easily through the villagisation arrangement, he said.

The Minister was given a prolonged applause when he insisted that villagisation and collective production would continue to be voluntary and that no form of force would be applied.

He said the efficient mobilisation of the peasantry and scientific production was the only sure way of attracting the rest into co-operative production because they would have seen the positive results from others.

FIRMS NOT INVESTING MUCH IN DODOMA, SAYS CDA CHIEF

Dar es Salaam TANZANIA DAILY NEWS in English 27 Mar 87 p 3

[Article by Mussa Lupatu]

[Text]

FINANCIAL institutions in the country have not yet responded positively to the Government directive that they invest 25 per cent of their development budgets to the development of the new capital here.

The Acting Director General of the Capital Development Authority (CDA), Ndugu Thomas Mtei, told the *Daily News* here yesterday: "It is rather unfortunate that no institution has come out with strong commitment to the idea."

He said CDA had drawn a package of projects and their write-ups indicating areas in which the institutions could invest profitably. Although the package had been sent to the institutions, there was no strong commitment.

In 1982/83 the government directed that financial institutions should invest 25 per cent of their development budgets here to speed up the development of the new capital.

The National Provident Fund (NPF) has pledged to build office blocks for government ministries while the National Insurance Corporation (NIC) and NPF also pledged to develop 160 and 262 units of houses each, respectively.

Ndugu Mtei said yesterday all these projects had not taken off. The National Bank of Commerce (NBC) had indicated that it would be interested to invest in projects that would earn the institution foreign exchange.

The projects identified for the institutions are on houses, office blocks, hotels and hostels. When undertaken, the projects will generate income to the investors and enable them recover investment costs in a short time.

Ndugu Mtei said experience had shown that investors were reluctant to put their money in development of new capitals.

However, he said, the reluctance, based on economic considerations, did not apply in Dodoma.

The trend so far was that projects of hundreds of shillings generated millions of shillings within a short time.

He appealed to investors to come forward saying there was no going back in the decision to build the new capital.

Ndugu Mtei also said CDA would undertake phase two of the renovation work on Dodoma general hospital during the next financial year. This would upgrade it to a level slightly higher than the normal regional hospital.

He said CDA had already renovated three wards including erecting a new maternity theatre whose civil works would be completed shortly.

Work planned for phase two included civil work on buildings, and the renovation of drainage and sewage systems, he said.

Initially, CDA planned to build a consultancy hospital here but the idea was shelved due to financial constraints. After this CDA made a study and a fully designed work on the renovation programme but this had also to be phased because of lack of money.

Ndugu Mtei said CDA attached a lot of importance to the programme because of the fact that population had increased from 30,000 in 1973 to about 125,000 at present.

Dodoma also handles a lot of visitors including foreign dignitaries all of whom need medical attention.

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CSO: 3400/685

CANADIAN RAILWAY ASSISTANCE, REDUCTION IN RSA DEPENDENCE

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 3 Apr 87 p 1

[Text]

ZAMBIA will get K349 million grant from Canada for the purchase of railway wagons, spare parts and other rolling stock to reduce the country's dependence on South Africa.

Prime Minister Cde Kebby Musokotwane who signed for the grant in Lusaka yesterday appealed to the international community to help Frontline states reduce their dependence on the racist regime.

Canada's high commissioner to Zambia Miss Marion McPherson signed for her country.

Under the grant Zambia Railways would get 405 wagons 200 of them covered, 25 would be tanks, 120 containerised cargo and 60 cattle wagons, spare parts technical assistance and training.

Delivery will begin in the last quarter of this year and would be completed in March 1988.

Cde Musokotwane said: "It is for the long term benefit of Zambia to have alternative sources so that at no time can we be blackmailed by South

Africa. The international community should know that when they help us, they make us reduce our dependence on South Africa."

Transport was a key area to consolidating a country's independence. The offer would go a long way in helping deliver goods to remotest areas of Zambia.

"On occasions we have used wagons from South Africa, but this will now be minimised drastically."

He hoped that Canada's influence would permeate other big and influential countries so that they too could understand the position of Zambia in the region.

Miss MacPherson said her country was aware of Zambia's problems as member of the Frontline states. It was her wish to lessen Zambia's dependence on South African railways network.

SALES TAX, CUSTOMS BILLS PASS THROUGH PARLIAMENT

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 2 Apr 87 p 1

[Text]

THE controversial Sales Tax (Amendment) Bill went through the second reading yesterday despite earlier indications that backbenchers would throw it out.

Prime Minister Comrade Kebby Musokotwane softened the mood of the House when he said the proposed sales tax increments were not on all goods since some of them had not been changed from the 1983 Act.

Cde Musokotwane said he shared the concern of the MPs but this anxiety was because the bill did not indicate which items were affected.

He pleaded with them to bear in mind that the Government did not derive pleasure in punishing people but it had to raise money for development purposes.

Earlier in opposing the bill Mr Munkayumbwa Sipalo (Mongu) said members should not make

Parliament "a torture chamber for the people of Zambia" by approving bills that would raise the cost of living.

Mr Dawson Lupunga (Masaiti) said the recent spate of strikes was an indicator of discontent over prices and the House should not aggravate the situation by passing such a bill.

Mr Simeon Kampata (Munali) said the Government should stop "pushing the people too much against the wall" in view of the present economic straits the nation was going through.

Also presented for second reading was the Customs and Excise Duty (Amendment) Bill which sought to increase duty on imported items.

Cde Musokotwane said the bill was meant to raise both revenue as well as protecting local industries from stiff foreign competition.

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CSO: 3400/674

FORMER MINISTER ON WORKER INDISCIPLINE, UNION CREDIBILITY

Lusaka ZAMBIA DAILY MAIL in English 31 Mar 87 p 1

[Text]

THE CREDIBILITY of some trade union leaders is in doubt in view of the widespread indiscipline among their members who have resorted to wildcat strikes, former Finance Minister John Mwanakatwe said yesterday.

In a paper he presented to a seminar for labour leaders in the public service at Hotel Musi-o-Tunya Intercontinental in Livingstone, Cde Mwanakatwe said widespread indiscipline among union members was likely to tarnish the image of the trade unionism in the country.

He said responsible men and women in the country were concerned that teachers, junior doctors and nurses could go on strike at the expense of patients and innocent school children.

Cde Mwanakatwe now a prominent lawyer in Lusaka, said some members of the trade unions had lost credibility when their countrymen expected them to conduct their affairs responsibly.

Although the impact of inflation on the lives of the people had been disastrous and unbearable during the past five years it was not for workers to resort to illegal methods to improve living standards.

He said, labour leaders should avoid making strike threats to enforce demands of their members at least until all laid-down procedures for industrial conciliation had been exhausted.

Cde Mwanakatwe also called on the Party and its government to stop making threats which may arouse suspicion among labour leaders.

'This kind of reciprocity which we envisage implies that the Party and its government will sometimes lose a round or two. In that event it should desist from

making provocative remarks which might arouse hostility among labour leaders," he said.

Meaningful participation of trade unions in national economic recovery would not be achieved unless union members respected the laws of the country, he said.

The labour laws in Zambia provided safeguards for the interests of workers and employers and any aggrieved party could seek redress through legally-established channels.

It was inconceivable that the Party and its government could allow trade unions to be their partners in development without sufficient proof that they too were fully committed to the concept of building Zambia through sweat and sacrifice.

Cde Mwanakatwe said to entrench a sense of responsibility among members, the labour movement should introduce training programmes for all its office bearers.

"We need to formulate educational programmes on a regular basis for each trade union in Zambia to embrace general training for branch and district officials on special sub-

jects," he said.

Earlier, opening the seminar, Chief Justice Annel-Silungwe called on employers' organisations to appreciate reasonable demands from workers in order to forestall industrial unrest.

Workers and employers must desist from acts that could only worsen the already stagnant economy.

Cde Silungwe said the unhealthy economy called for sound industrial harmony in all institutions.

"In the interest of progress and sustained harmonious labour relations, it is essential to observe established procedures in the resolutions of disputes and wildcat strikes do not constitute the observance of established procedures."

These included collective bargaining and, provision for mediation, conciliation and arbitration in the event of industrial disputes, Cde Silungwe said.

Participants were drawn from the Civil Servants Union of Zambia (CSUZ), the Zambia United Local Authorities Workers Union (ZULAWU) and the National Union of Public Service Workers (NUPSW).

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CSO: 3400/674

LABOR LEADER DEFENDS BLOC TRAINING OF UNION LEADERSHIP

Lusaka ZAMBIA DAILY MAIL in [English] 2 Apr 87 p 1

[Text]

A LABOUR leader has attacked the Zambia Congress of Trade Unions [ZCTU] for criticising the government's decision to send trade union leaders to socialist countries for courses, saying the criticism was "retrogressive."

Mafela branch chairman of the Civil Servants Union of Zambia [CSUZ], Comrade Frederick Nakanga, said the ZCTU's decision was not serious because it had done very little so far to send its cadres in lower ranks for advanced labour courses abroad.

He said most of the people who attended courses abroad were top union officials and the trend has not changed although the top leadership was well aware of juniors' inadequacies in education.

He regretted that some courses attended by some top union officials abroad are actually meant for district branch officials.

Cde Nakanga said, "Training is training wherever it comes from. After all, it is meant to benefit the workers."

"While I may not entirely support the Party's

move to turn the labour movement into a mass organisation, at the same time I support the move to educate the leaders.

"At least, let them be educated instead of remaining ignorant because of the supposed fear that they will agree to a Party directed trade unionism concept."

In a circular dated January 7 this year addressed to all labour leaders and signed by ZCTU general secretary Cde Newstead Zimba, the congress attacked the Party for allegedly trying to indoctrinate labour leaders by sending them to eastern Europe for courses without the consent of the congress.

Cde Zimba questioned the Party's move saying it was not only "educational but a long-standing ar-

rangement to prey on the soft minds that can agree with the concept of the Party-directed trade unionism in the country."

But Cde Nakanga said ZCTU should take up the training of its officials at lower levels instead of criticising "a good Samaritan" who had seen it fit to ensure proper training for union officials.

He cited the Public Service International seminar currently being held in Livingstone which is being attended only by top leaders of the three national unions representing workers in the public service.

He charged that the failure to provide adequate training for union cadres at lower levels was aimed at ensuring the positions in the top leadership.

"We have created a cadre of very well trained top leaders and poorly trained juniors who will not lay claim to top leadership because of poor training," he said.

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CSO: 3400/673

MINERS REJECT SALARY INCREMENT PROPOSAL

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 7 Apr 87 p 1

[Text]

MINEWORKERS Union of Zambia (MUZ) supreme council has rejected salary increment proposals offered by ZCCM, it was learnt in Kitwe yesterday.

According to an informed source, the company was notified of the new development last Saturday, a day after its suggestion was thrown out.

He did not however provide figures of the rejected rises which one said to have stalled negotiations for a fresh collective agreement currently being worked out between the two parties.

The source noted that ZCCM was facing financial difficulties but the miners demand for more money was dictated by the present high cost of living.

He also blamed the fast depreciation of the Kwacha for the decision by the union to press for a bigger pay package.

The union would hold an emergency council meeting at Kitwe's Katilungu House today where councillors would be briefed on the ZCCM stand.

During last Friday's ordinary meeting members voiced concern over what they termed a slow pace of the negotiations.

Councillors were generally happy with a number of proposals in the conditions of service apart from just a few aspects which they thought should be modified.

Opening the meeting MUZ chairman Comrade Timothy Walamba had warned ZCCM not to be intransigent and uncompromising towards miners' demands as that would be tantamount to playing with fire.

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CSO: 3400/674

BANK OF ZAMBIA MANAGER ON DOWNWARD ECONOMIC SLIDE

Lusaka ZAMBIA DAILY MAIL in English 2 Apr 87 p 1

[Text]

ZAMBIA's economy has continued to worsen with no sign of improvement despite successive International Monetary Fund (IMF) adjustment programmes, Bank of Zambia general manager Michael Mwape said yesterday.

Consumer price inflation had more than doubled while decline in terms of trade had accelerated sharply with exports dwindling and the external debt rising to 3.5 billion dollars at the end of 1984.

In a paper presented to top trade unionists meeting at Livingstone's Hotel Musi-o-Tunya Inter-Continental yesterday Cde Mwape also said the IMF's 'medicines' had led to social and political upheavals in many African countries because they were not focused on poverty issues.

The degree to which prices were liberalised and the size to which subsidies were cut determined the success or failure of the IMF programmes, he said in a paper read for him by Comrade David Chitundu, Director of Monetary and Credit Policies (Analysis Division).

"Dialogue between the IMF and the Zambian government had always been the main feature of past programmes. However, we feel that in designing the conditionality clauses, the IMF should focus on poverty.

"The question which should be answered when designing programmes is who is going to bear the brunt of adjustment among the high, medium and low income groups and what cushion is available to minimise the burden," he said.

Zambia has had five adjustment programmes with the IMF since 1976 and the last programme approved in July 1984 was cancelled in February last year after becoming inoperative in April 1985,

he said.

"In spite of these adjustments, the economy has shown signs of stress with no significant improvement in a number of areas," he said.

The inability to modify the programmes on timely basis, difficulties in agreeing on policy changes when the programmes went off track and the over optimistic projections of copper prices had led the economy's continued decline.

"In recent years too, we at the Central Bank have lamented not only at the smaller volumes of aid we have received but also at the insistence by creditors that as condition to receive more money our relationship with the IMF must be 100 per cent holy," he said.

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CSO: 3400/673

AGRICULTURE MINISTER ON MAIZE SHORTFALL, DROUGHT, RELIEF

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 2 Apr 87 p 1

[Excerpts]

ZAMBIA is headed for a serious shortfall in maize yield this year because of poor rains in major production areas like Southern Province.

Minister of Agriculture and Water Development Comrade Kingsley Chinkuli gave the grim forecast in Parliament on Tuesday evening when he wound up debate on the budgetary estimates for his ministry.

He said everything now hinged on luck for Zambia to produce marketed production of more than seven million bags.

"Although I cannot give firm figures at the moment, the tentative information I have received reveals that a crop failure of between 50 and 100 per cent in most areas over last year's output is expected in Southern Province.

"This is true in some other provinces too. The nation is therefore not expected to hit last year's output of 10.2 million bags of marketed maize. We would be lucky if we achieve a marketed production over seven million bags," the minister said.

To help reduce the impact of drought, the ministry was carrying out research on irrigated agriculture.

An irrigation fund had been created with the help of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA). He appealed to other external donors including the World Bank to generously contribute towards the fund which would be administered by the newly created Lima Bank.

The fund would enable farmers to grow both food and export crops more than once in a year in drought-prone areas especially valleys where the climate was warm most of the year. The Party and its Government has meanwhile, allocated K50,000 for drought relief programmes in the Southern Province.

Permanent secretary

there Cde Isaac Manda said the money would be used as revolving funds for the affected areas where mealie meal would be bought and resold to the villagers.

District councils whose areas had been hit by the drought would submit assessments of their needs to his office after which money would be released.

Only Gwembe had so far submitted assessments and his office was making arrangements to send officers to evaluate the needs.

This year's drought has been the worst so far with farmers barely reaping enough for their domestic consumption.

Last week President Kaunda toured the drought stricken areas to ascertain the seriousness of the drought and promised to take up the matter with Cabinet and the Central Committee.

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CSO: 3400/673

SEED RESERVES LOW, SHORTFALL SEEN AS 'INEVITABLE'

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 6 Apr 87 p 1

[Text]

THE Zambia Seed Company (Zamseed) is negotiating to import 30,000 pockets of seed maize from Zimbabwe to avert a crisis this year.

Zambia Seed Producers Association chairman Mr Bruce Landless told the just-ended Commercial Farmers Bureau (CFB) council annual general meeting in Lusaka that seed reserves were at an all time low and a shortfall this season was inevitable.

"Sales of seed maize during the past season exceeded 175,000 pockets.

"In view of the drought conditions which have prevailed in Chisamba to Mazabuka areas in particular, it is inevitable that there is going to be a shortfall of normal requirement.

"Consequently Zamseed is currently negotiating for the possible importation of

30,000 pockets from Zimbabwe," he said in his report.

Seed maize production last year stood at 160,000 50 kg bags and this low output was because some producers had pulled out because of poor prices and conditions.

It was imperative that the situation should be corrected if the nation was to be self-sufficient in seeds.

Mr Landless said demand for MM752 and MM601 maize varieties last year exceeded the predictions by Zamseed, thereby causing shortages.

A total seed maize hectareage of 3,390 was allocated to growers during the season in line with the request by Zamseed but only 2,735 hectares were utilised because of unfavourable weather and pricing conditions.

Production areas of the other 12 species of crops covering 1,550 hectares were on target with the exception of rainfed wheat but yields would be affected by dry conditions.

To avert a possible shortage of potato seed in the July/August period, Zamseed has allocated a limited quantity of summer production but a large bulk of it has been rejected as unsuitable.

Mr Landless said chances of producing quality seed during the hot summer were minimal but allocation for normal winter production of up-to-date and pentland dell variety had been made and planting had commenced.

In Kitwe, Agriculture and Water Development Minister General Kingsley Chinkuli said the drought which had hit several parts of Southern Africa would adversely affect Zambia's agricultural output.

Addressing members of the Copperbelt branch of the Engineering Institute of Zambia (EIZ) during a dinner held at Hotel Edinburgh Comrade Chinkuli challenged Zambian scientists to devise simple machinery to tap vast amounts of underground water for irrigation.

Zambia was endowed with sufficient water resources both on the surface and underground but its distribution was impaired by lack of proper equipment.

Earlier EIZ outgoing chairman Dr Silane Mwenechanya said the institute was currently examining the possibility of improving water supply for residents in Chingola.

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CSO: 3400/673

TAIWAN, ISRAEL LEAD FOREIGN INVESTMENT WAVE TO USE CHEAP LABOR

Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 13 Apr 87 p 12

[Article by Alister Sparks]

[Text] Botshabelo—International public opinion in favor of sanctions against South Africa is steadily increasing in strength. But at the same time foreign investors—led by Taiwanese and Israeli companies—are streaming into the country to utilize the cheap labor created by the apartheid system.

They build factories in the so-called homelands and the big resettlement camps where millions of blacks have been moved as part of the government's efforts to racially segregate the entire country.

In these large areas of poverty where there are few job opportunities and where trade unions are either passive or forbidden to operate, employers can pay a factory worker as little as 45 kronor a week.

The companies also benefit from the big sums the government pays out to attract them to these underdeveloped and increasingly overpopulated areas.

Pretoria sends people abroad to recruit foreign companies to these "decentralized areas," as they are euphemistically called. People contacted by these agents say that they stress that labor is cheap, that there are no trade unions to "make trouble" and that the state subsidies are very advantageous. Sometimes they also offer to ship machinery and equipment at the expense of the South African state.

Employment

The stated goal is to create employment in these poor areas, but the recruiting is also aimed at counteracting sanction plans. A researcher who made a survey of investors in South Africa said:

"The authorities walk around waving their checkbooks in their eagerness to counteract the increasingly strong demands from other countries for sanctions and a ban on investments."

Pretoria has had its greatest success in Taiwan and Israel, which reflects the increasing ties between South Africa and other "pariah countries" that are treated like outcasts by parts of the international community.

Of the 43 companies that have operations in Botshabelo, one of the largest resettlement camps with around half a million inhabitants, 17 are Taiwanese, four are Israeli and two are from Hong Kong. On the other hand there are no companies from any of the big western industrialized nations.

Taiwanese and Israeli firms are also well-represented in the other 48 "decentralized areas" that have been set up around South Africa.

Lowest Wages

According to another study companies with Taiwanese ownership pay the lowest wages and have the poorest working conditions. They also have the worst reputation when it comes to relations with employees. Workers complain that the Taiwanese have an arrogant attitude toward blacks and that they sometimes mistreat black workers.

"The Taiwanese are worse than the Boers," said one worker.

Taiwanese supervisors for their part often talk disparagingly about blacks whom they regard as unqualified and slow.

"They do not work as hard as the Chinese do," said Pon Fong Peng, who runs a clothing factory together with her husband.

"And if they are lazy and don't work hard, why should we have to pay them more?"

The Israeli firms seem to pay somewhat better and have better relations with the personnel, but the wages are still very low.

Aviv Sport, which makes leisure clothes, pays 60 kronor a week in starting wages and 75 kronor for trained workers.

This corresponds to a third of the statutory minimum wage for comparable work that applies in the rest of South Africa.

Moshe Grembek, the head of Aviv Sport, does not agree that black workers are lazy or incompetent.

"That's a lot of shit. It depends entirely on how you treat them. We have made an effort to establish good relations with the employees and we are very satisfied with productivity," he said.

But doesn't it approach pure exploitation to pay such low wages?

"I would have to say yes," said Grembek after a period of embarrassed silence.

Electronic Magnetic Associates, a Hong Kong firm that manufactures video equipment, pays the highest wages in Botshabelo--105 kronor for trainees and 135 kronor for trained personnel. Working conditions in general are also better, including free soup for the personnel every day.

The factory is run by a young Afrikaaner, Pieter de Bruin.

"It is not the South Africans who are responsible for the worst things here," he said with a forced smile.

Botshabelo appeared on the landscape for the first time 7 years ago when South Africa granted nominal independence to a "homeland" called Bophutha Tswana.

The greater part of Bophutha Tswana lies in Transvaal. But in their zeal to carry out an ethnic "clean-up," the authorities decided that the members of the Tswanas who lived near Thaba 'Nchu in Orange Free State, 35 miles away, should belong to the new "state."

The result was that 75,000 members of the Sotho tribe--the biggest tribe in Orange Free State--had to be moved from the Thaba 'Nchu area. The government bought a large farm a mile away on the other side of the border of the "homeland" and moved these people there.

Mechanization

This coincided with a period of rapid mechanization on white farms and many black farm workers lost their jobs. The government put pressure on the farmers to send the surplus farm workers to the "homeland" to reduce the number of blacks in what is officially regarded as "white" South Africa.

Thousands of people moved to the new resettlement areas where large shantytowns began to spread over the flat landscape 5 miles east of Bloemfontein, the small provincial capital.

The blacks in Botshabelo cannot legally move away unless they have a job and approved housing in some town, an impossible condition for most of them. The only other way to get out is to move to the equally overpopulated Sotho homeland, Qwa-Qwa, 15 miles further to the east, where there are even fewer job opportunities.

When the population of Botshabelo began to grow explosively, the authorities tried to lure companies there with liberal subsidies. They offer loans on generous terms, pay three-quarters of the rent and 95 percent of the wages up to 75 kronor a week and offer companies a 7-year tax exemption.

Cost-Free

Businessmen I interviewed here said openly that it is what one of them called "the practically cost-free labor force" that made them decide to establish their businesses here.

Some Taiwanese business leaders also said that their firms set themselves up here in order to avoid the restrictions on exports to the United States.

The liberal loan terms also give failing South African firms a chance to survive. An industrialist who did not want his name used explained how it works:

A company on the brink of bankruptcy sets up a subsidiary in one of the "decentralized areas." It applies for a loan for 1 million kronor for the purchase of machinery.

Instead of new machinery, the firm spends 500,000 kronor on second-hand machinery. The rest of the money is transferred to the parent company along with the profits from the subsidiary.

This operation is not entirely legal, the businessman pointed out. But controls are lax because the authorities are so eager to get results.

Despite the fact that the profits are so large, the companies exploit this captive labor reserve to the utmost. Few of them offer employment benefits such as pensions, vacation pay, sick pay, maternity benefits or even subsidized meals.

The workers bring their own food with them and eat it in the grass outside the factory during their lunch break. One businessman assumed that this behavior is part of the "black culture," a topic a visitor hears a lot of long lectures about from even recently-arrived amateur ethnologists.

Coca-Cola

Those with a more pragmatic bent noted that a hamburger and a Coca-Cola at the only fast-food store in the vicinity cost 7 kronor, almost a whole day's pay for many workers.

"People seem to lack any social conscience," said a factory leader who is shocked at what is going on.

Some businessmen admit that they benefit from the apartheid system and a few say they feel guilty about it.

"I feel really terrible," said one person. "I have been in the shantytowns and seen the conditions there. We should do more, but I am only a local manager, you know."

Most see nothing wrong with the wages they pay. They say the labor force is "green," unproductive and often absent. They are quick to point out that they create employment here where there was none before and some come perilously close to depicting themselves as social benefactors.

"They get wages that are market-adjusted according to their ability. When they become more proficient they also get better pay," said Clive Mendelsohn,

a 30-year-old businessman in the steel branch and chairman of the Botshabelo businessmen's association.

"What the government does is compensate us for the disadvantages of establishing ourselves out here in the bush where most people have never had a job before. That is a reasonable provision."

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